MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 JANUARY 1983

Lebanon

Khaldah Talks -- At the seventh session of Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations, the first step was taken toward achieving an agreement between Israel and Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. After talks on terminating the state of war and on security arrangements, the delegation spokesmen announced that the negotiations had progressed following a decision establishing a subcommittee to formulate a joint proposal for ending the state of war, the radio noted. The subcommittee held its first meeting at Khaldah and additional subcommittees will be established as the negotiations progress, the Israeli spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by the radio. According to IDF Radio, agreement was reached on a framework for a declaration about ending the state of war which will "apparently" not mention the 1949 cease-fire agreements. On the other hand, Voice of Lebanon radio said the Lebanese negotiators were maintaining their stand that the armistice agreement is still in effect and reported that no agreement was reached on this matter.

The Voice of Lebanon also reported that a committee began discussing the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. Israeli media did not mention any such committee. Jerusalem radio said the Israelis rejected Lebanese demands that the withdrawal of foreign forces be given preference, asserting that subcommittees should be established only after recommendations are agreed for discussion. While the plenum for negotiations will continue to convene biweekly in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona, the subcommittees will operate separately, the radio noted.

Security Situation -- Clashes continued in the Ash-Shuf mountain area despite the conclusion of a new Druze-Christian cease-fire agreement, according to reports by the Voice of Lebanon and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Meanwhile, sources cited by the Beirut daily AS-SAFIR accused the Israelis of trying to stifle news that a mass grave containing the bodies of 15 youths who were detained at Al-Angar detention camp was found nearby.

Syria

Two consignments of Soviet SAM-5's arrived in Syria last week, Jerusalem radio reported citing U.S. intelligence sources. The missile sites, near Damascus and Homs, will become operational "within 6 weeks," the report added.

Iraq-Iran War

Iranian fighter planes and antiaircraft units shot down three Iraqi aircraft in the southern border region on 16 January, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed. Meanwhile, an Iraqi military spokesman refuted the Iranian claim, according to INA. An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio said Iraqi fighter planes attacked oil installations on Khark Island and gas production and separation plants north of Ahvaz scoring direct hits.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat on Camp David, Egypt -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat affirmed to the Cairo magazine AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI that the PLO is not asking Egypt to forsake the Camp David accords, Radio Monte Carlo reported. 'Arafat added that the PLO hopes Egypt will not ask it to recognize Israel "unilaterally," the radio noted. The radio pointed out that in his statement 'Arafat appealed to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak "to take a step" toward the Palestinians.

Salah Khalaf on Syria -- Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf said he still favors a "strategic alliance" with Syria but that Syria must decide to fight "even if Damascus is occupied," according to an interview published by the Saudi paper "AL-MADINA AL-MADINAH. "We need Syria and Syria needs us," Khalaf stressed.

Palestinian Delegation -- During recent talks in Amman, Jordanian and Palestinian sides agreed to name the members of the Palestinian delegation that would participate with the Jordanian delegation in any peace talks, negotiations, or activity, QNA reported citing the Qatari paper AR-RAYAH.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived back in Baghdad on 17 January following his visit to Damascus, INA reported. Meanwhile, King Husayn returned to Jordan following visits to Iraq and Saudi Arabia, according to Amman radio. Commenting on the king's visits, Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran stated that the talks in the fraternal countries were important and viewpoints were identical on all issues discussed, Amman television noted. Riyadh radio viewed the outcome of King Husayn's talks in Saudi Arabia as strengthening bilateral relations and consolidating all matter of concern to the Arab world.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi in Bulgaria -- Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Bulgaria on an official visit at the invitation of the chairman of the State Council and secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, Todor Zhivkov, JANA reported. According to Sofia radio, a meeting between the Libyan and Bulgarian leaders took place in a cordial, friendly atmosphere and centered on bilateral and international issues.

Oil Secretariat Statement -- Libya is adhering to OPEC basic prices and using all its resources to maintain OPEC unity, JANA reported citing a Libyan Oil Secretariat statement on deteriorating oil prices in the world market.

Egypt

Two U.S. soldiers of the Multinational Force and Observers in Sharm ash-Shaykh were severely injured when their vehicle drove over a mine, IDF Radio reported. According to Jerusalem radio, the soldiers were injured when they mistakenly entered a minefield.

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'ARAFAT CONCEDES EGYPT'S RIGHT TO CAMP DAVID

JN171432 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has affirmed to Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI magazine that the PLO is not asking Egypt to foresake the Camp David accords. He, however, added that the PLO is hoping that Egypt will not ask the PLO to recognize Israel unilaterally. 'Arafat pointed out that those asking Egypt to give up the Camp David accords at a time when the strategic balance is being upset in favor of Israel are actually endeavoring to create a new Arab disaster.

In his statement, 'Arafat addressed an appeal to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to take a step toward the Palestinians, stressing: I am prepared to reach out to the Egyptian president when he affirms -- in a declaration of principles -- the right of the Palestinian people to determine their own rights and to build their own independent state, and also when he affirms that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

'ARAFAT CALLS ON UK TO DEMAND PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

GF160810 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] Doha, 15 Jan (WAKH) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has called on Britian to demand granting the right of self-determination to the Palestinian people. He said: The British prime minister has to remember the right to self-determination of the 5 million Palestinians at a time when she demands granting the right of self-determination to the 1,800 people who inhabit the Falkland Islands.

In a statement to QNA, 'Arafat blamed Britain for the disaster that has befallen the Palestinian people since the issuing of the Balfour Declaration and its participation in the implementation of this declaration in the Arab Palestinian territories by providing all kinds of support to the international Zionist movement in establishing Israel and expelling the Palestinians from their homeland.

On the stance of the British Government toward receiving the seven-member committee, he said: We refuse to have representation of the Palestinian people imposed on us by people who have not been subjected to partitioning; besides, no authority can decide anything on behalf of the Palestinian people.

Yasir 'Arafat, who is currently visiting Doha, noted that his visit comes within the framework of a tour he is undertaking to a number of Arab countries prior to the convening of the next session of the Palestine National Council, to follow the visits of the seven-member committee to Washington, Paris, Moscow, and Beijing.

'Arafat described the results of his recent visit to the Soviet Union as successful and positive. He pointed out that the Soviet leaders stressed their commitment to supporting the Palestinian revolution and Palestinian rights, in addition to granting all kinds of support and backing to the Palestinian people.

He also stressed the importance of Egypt in the Arab-Israeli dispute, praising the role of the Egyptian people in supporting the Palestinian issue. He said that he will visit Egypt at the proper time.

On the possibility of meeting with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, he noted that there is no barrier between the two sides and that they can hold discussions at any time.

'Arafat referred to a meeting that will be held shortly in the Moroccan city of Fes by the Arab seven-member committee to evaluate the results of its visits to a number of capitals. He stressed that the PLO is after achieving a just and comprehensive peace that ensures the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people from a position of strength, not of weakness. He added that whenever the PLO achieves any victory, achieves recognition, or adopts any resolution, this is a result of the Palestinian struggle.

He termed the withdrawal of the Palestinian forces from Beirut as being a correct decision aimed at the protection of the children and women of the city. He emphasized that, had Beirut been a Palestinian city, then the fedayeen would have not withdrawan from it. 'Arafat stressed that he never realized that the Zionist enemy was so weak as he did during the siege of Beirut. He continued: The Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces defeated all the Zionist enemy's attempts in Lebanon. He said that he expected the Zionist enemy to launch an attack to strike at the Palestinian revolution particularly since it failed to achieve its goals during its invasion of Lebanon.

'ARAFAT EXPECTING ISRAELI ATTACK IN AL-BIQA'

GF161124 Doha QNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] Doha, 16 Jan (QNA) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who is currently visiting Doha, expects the forces of the Zionist enemy to shortly launch an aggressive attack against the Palestinian forces in the Al-Biqa' region in Lebanon.

In a statement to Qatari paper AL-'ARAB published today, 'Arafat described his recent talks with Soviet officials as being positive and as having achieved important results. He added that the talks focused on discussion of various international issues, particularly the Palestinian issue, the Middle East issue, and Palestinian-Soviet relations.

Talking generally about the peace process in the region, he noted that peace is only for the powerful, and we the Palestinians have made consecutive sacrifices and will continue to do so until we achieve our just rights.

On Jordanian-Palestinian relations, 'Arafat said that they are strong and united and that we are moving in the direction of ensuring greater cohesion and power. He stressed that so far there is no possibility of forming a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation for any coming peace talks.

Answering a question about Philip Habib's next move and the progress of the Lebanese-Israeli talks, he said that he does know why Habib has returned to the area. As for these talks, [he asked] what the lamb will take from the wolf. He referred to the absence of U.S. credibility in its promises or to the possibility of pressuring Israel.

Talking on relations with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, he noted that there is no barrier between them.

'Arafat concluded his statement by referring to the Palestinian revolution's relations with Egypt, noting that they are good. He stressed his faith in Egypt's role.

PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESUMES WORK IN DAMASCUS

JN171822 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee resumed its meetings in Damascus today under the chairmanship of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat.

According to highly placed sources, a committee has been formed under Palestine National Council [PNC] Speaker Khalid al-Fahum to prepare for the next PNC meeting, scheduled to be held in Algiers on 14 February.

PLO RADIO REPORTS ATTACK ON ISRAELIS NEAR TYRE

JN171748 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Southern Lebanon -- A group of joint forces' fighters yesterday set up an ambush in the rear of the enemy's lines in the area of Abu al-Aswad, which is located on the Tyre-Sidon international highway. As a Zionist military convoy composed of about 20 vehicles loaded with enemy soldiers was passing on the highway, the valiant fighters opened fire with machineguns and missiles on the patrol.

The fighters managed to return safely after completing the attack.

A large number of enemy soldiers were killed or wounded, more than 10 vehicles were completely destroyed, and other vehicles were damaged.

Immediately afterward, the enemy cordoned off the area with many soldiers and vehicles and conducted a thorough search, during which scores of citizens were arrested.

True to habit, the enemy claimed that only one Zionist soldier was wounded in this operation. The enemy was trying to belittle the significance of this attack and the losses it caused. The enemy spokesman said that the Israeli soldiers returned fire and began a large-scale search for the attackers, who managed to disappear.

ISRAEL, PLO NEGOTIATING RELEASE OF PRISONERS

JN151414 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1250 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Amman, 15 Jan (SANA) -- It has been learned from a well-informed Palestinian source that the PLO's conditions for the release of the Israeli prisoners of war, who were captured in Lebanon, include the return of all the documents of the Palestinian Research Center, which were plundered by the Israeli occupation forces during their stay in West Beirut.

The informed Palestinian sources said that the negotiations which are being held between former Knesset Member (Luba Ilyas) and PLO representatives in Europe are revolving around the release of all detainees in the Al-Ansar camp in southern Lebanon, in addition to the release of 1,000 Palestinian strugglers in Israeli prisons.

Lists of these strugglers have been drawn up and priority is given to the sick, women, girls, and those who have been sentenced to terms exceeding 15 years.

As for the detainees in the al-Ansar camp, these sources said that the occupation authorities have agreed to the release on condition that the detainees leave Lebanon after their release whereas the Palestinian resistance insists that they should remain in Lebanon. Regarding the strugglers in Israeli prisons, the Palestinian resistance has set the condition that they should be given the choice to either remain in or leave the occupied territory.

FATAH'S KHALAF ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT, SYRIA

GF171710 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 15 Jan 83 p 16

[Part II of interview with Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, by AL-MADINAH correspondent in Tunis -- date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] After your exit from Beirut, it seems you made a new assessment of your relations with Arab countries, as a result of which warmth with the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front was reduced while the opposite happened with moderate Arab countries, to the extent that you approached the Egyptian regime. On what basis did you make this assessment?

[Answer] In fact, this is not an assessment. Let us begin with Egypt first. During the aggression on Beirut, our brothers outside tried to intensify their contacts with Egypt, hoping that Egypt would make a stand on the Camp David agreement by at least freezing it, although we aspired for its abolishment even if this was impossible. We hoped Egypt would freeze its diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity. To tell the truth, our brothers did not succeed in this mission.

The second goal of contacts with Egypt was to stop the aggression. But alas, President Husni Mubarak did not pressure Israel by mobilizing even one soldier in the 150 square-km area under the Camp David accords. What is strange is that the Egyptian president made a stupid remark to his people by saying that Israel mobilized three divisions on its border with Egypt and sent only three brigades to Lebanon. If this was true, we would have easily annihilated them. But, in fact, and this was proved later, Israel did not mobilize 1 soldier on its border with Egypt while it sent 11 divisions to Lebanon. This was affirmed by Begin himself when he said: We tested the Israeli-Egyptian treaty during the war in Lebanon and the Egyptians passed the test.

In this light, Egypt did not change. Therefore, after this aggression, only two or three contacts were made with Egypt. In my opinion, these contacts were irresponsible and wrong because the Baghdad summit conference boycotted Egypt. As Palestinians we have to be the first to abide by these resolutions, because we drove the Arab countries to boycott Egypt.

[Question] Allow me to interrupt you. Contacts with Egypt during the war in Lebanon had positive results on the information level and on the level of the Franco-Egyptian move and also the messages that were exchanged between Mubarak and Reagan.

[Answer] Let us talk frankly: These contacts did not achieve the desired goal of freezing the treaty of diplomatic relations. What happened is that the ambassador was withdrawn; he will return to his post in Tel Aviv in a few days. To tell the truth, we would like Egypt to return to the Arab nation and the Arab nation to return to Egypt. No one can belittle Egypt's important role. However, the Egypt of Camp David is rejected because if we accept this situation we will be driving and encouraging Israel to continue to reject the Palestinian state, because the Camp Daivd agreement did not discuss this but only provided for Palestinian autonomy. Consequently, if we support Egypt, this means we approve everything that Egypt has done.

As for the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front countries, their stand during the war in Lebanon was like that of other Arab countries, although they have special missions, particularly military ones. But, alas, they did not have any role. Hence, relations wit the front countries have cooled recently. There is nothing between us and Algeria and the PDRY.

Our relations with Syria and Libya deteriorated a little; the reason for this was that we pinned so much hopes on them because they could help us by taking part in the battle. As for Syria, I did not say it did not fight, but the Syrians did not fight as they were required to. Here we must ask: Did Syria offer all it had in the battle? I say: No. Perhaps our brothers in Syria had their calculations and logic and this is why we blame our brothers in Syria and Libya.

[Question] All indications show that your relations with Syria are tense at a time when you have your cadres and units in this country. Don't you think that this crisis will affect your presence in this country?

[Answer] As I told you, we do not deny that Syria fought in Lebanon; it was the only country to fight. But, we say that Syria did not fight with all its might and this is the point of our difference.

[Question] Does this mean that this is your only blame for Syria?

[Answer] Yes, this is the only blame for Syria. This is, in fact, the reason for the differences between us and our brothers in Syria.

[Question] But does this mean that this difference between you and Syria is a boycott?

[Answer] No, on the contrary. Before the aggression in Lebanon, I was one of those who called for a strategic alliance with Syria. But this alliance must be in the service of battle: the decision to fight. I still favor this strategic alliance. This means a decision from Syria to fight and to not stop fighting even if Damascus is occupied. When I say: "Even if Damascus is occupied," this means Syria will then be the leader of the Arab nation because in that case, all Arab potential will feed into Syria.

That is why we say we did not reach the point of a boycott with Syria. We have formed a committee to hold talks with Syria under Khalid al-Fahum. The committee includes a seven-member Executive Committee with full authority to begin a quiet dialogue so that enemies will not exploit the situation and destroy relations between Syria and the resistance. Finally, I say we need Syria and Syria needs us.

'SIGNIFICANT PREOGRESS' MADE IN GULF WAR MEDIATION

PM171053 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 13 Jan 83 p 1

[Gulf bureau report: "Progress in Algeria's Mediation Between Iraq and Iran"]

[Excerpt] ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT learned yesterday that some significant progress has been achieved in Algeria's mediation between Iraq and Iran and that the mediation will be resumed in the next few days on a new basis.

The Algerian mediation began when Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi visited Iran last month, but the results were shrouded in the utmost secrecy. Highly placed Gulf sources, however, told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday that Ibrahimi would soon begin shuttle visits between Baghdad and Tehran to lay down the basis of an agreement which could lead to direct negotiations on ending the war, which has entered its third year.

The sources, however, expressed the fear that any delay in or obstruction of the mediation efforts could lead to a resumption of the fighting on a large scale by the spring -- in 2 months, that is -- and that major military preparations have been observed at the front this week.

BAHRAIN

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR KUWAIT

GF171014 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Manama, 17 Jan (WAKH) -- [Syrian Foreign Affairs Minister] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today left Manama for Kuwait after concluding a 1-day visit to Bahrain within a tour of a number of the area's countries.

During the visit, the Syrian minister conveyed a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah dealing with the current Arab developments. The Syrian official also held contacts with Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah dealing with the Arab-Israeli dispute and the dangers facing the Arab nation.

TUNISIA'S CAID ES-SEBSI SCORES UK 'CONDITIONS'

LD142217 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Tunisian Foreign Minister Mr Beji Caid es-Sebsi has pointed out that Britain has imposed on the Arab seven-man committee conditions that are an affront to the dignity of the Arab states.

At a press conference he held in Manama this evening, he said that these conditions concerned not only the PLO but also all the Arab states. He added that the seven-man committee would meet in Morocco in the course of this month in order to assess the results of its previous tours and review what it could do next.

Departs Manama 15 Jan

GF150814 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0725 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Manama, 15 Jan (WAKH) -- Tunisian Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi today left for Doha after concluding a 3-day official visit to Bahrain within a tour of a number of the region's countries.

During the visit, the Tunisian minister held talks with Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah dealing with bilateral relations and the means of improving them, in addition to the current developments in the Arab and international arenas and issues of mutual interest.

He was seen off at the airport by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and a number of Bahraini officials.

KUWAIT

SYRIA'S KHADDAM COMMENTS ON TALKS, DEPARTS FOR DOHA

LD171209 Kuwait KUNA in English 1018 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 17 (KUNA) -- Syrian deputy premier and foreign minister left here Monday following a short visit to Kuwait during which he delivered a message from the Syrian president [to] his highness the amir.

The Syrian minister, who left for Doha in the course of his current Gulf tour, is also expected to visit the United Arab Emirates.

Khaddam has so far visited Saudi Arabia and Bahrain where he delivered messages to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa Al Khalifah.

The Syrian minister described his meeting with H.H. the amir as "good" and said "this is something natural because there is a similarity of stands between the two countries on the current issues particularly those relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Khaddam said he "delivered a message from the Syrian president to H.H. the amir on the situation in the area and current developments particularly in Lebanon and the Israeli attempts to impose its conditions on that country." He added that he also discussed "means of helping Lebanon to stand against those pressures."

Khaddam affirmed that what Israel is demanding is very serious because it threatens the core of national security, not only of Lebanon, but the whole Arab nation.

In a meeting attended by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Khaddam said that he also discussed with Deputy Premier and Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir viewpoints on current developments and means of confronting them.

Answering a question whether the message he delivered to H.H. the amir had dealt with the Iraq-Iran war, Khaddam said the message was dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict, but the Iraq-Iran war was not tackled in today's meetings.

The Syrian minister expressed belief that Israel would not withdraw from Lebanon without serious pressure on all levels.

Khaddam was seen off at the airport by the public works minister, 'Abdallah Dukhayl ar-Rushayd; Director of the Foreign Ministry Protocol Department Ahmad 'Abd al-Ayub; the Protocol Department official, 'Abdallah as-San'oussi; and the Syrian ambassador in Kuwait.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY URGES BORDER ACCORD WITH IRAQ

GF171108 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 16 Jan 83 p 1

[Excerpt] National Assembly deputies yesterday called on the Kuwait Government to hold contacts with Iraq to finalize the demarcation of their common borders similar to agreements concluded between Iraq and of Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

The National Assembly was discussing foreign policy as envisaged in the government program.

The deputies hailed Kuwait's foreign policy which they said was marked by frankness and a constant backing for Arab and Islamic issues, topped by the Palestine cause. They said this policy was the object of envy by certain parties which had led to assassination attempts against Kuwaiti diplomats.

One deputy called for "constant caution" against hostile plans from "elements filled with hatred."

Ahmad as-Sa'dun urged Kuwait to abide by its decision not to sign the Gulf security agreement proposed by the GCC. He said: "Such a pact would not be useful to Kuwait."

SAUDI ARABIA

FOREIGN MINISTER, JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER MEET

LD171014 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0934 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Jan (SPA) -- The foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, conferred with the Jordanian prime minister, Mudar Badran, this morning.

The meeting was attended by the court minister, 'Amir Khammash; the commander in chief of the armed forces, General Zayd ibn Shakir; and the Jordanian ambassador to the Kingdom.

A number of issues of mutual concern were discussed during the meeting.

KING HUSAYN DEPARTS RIYADH FOR MEDINA, JORDAN

GF171414 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan left Riyadh at 1430 today for Medina on his way to Jordan at the end of a 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz saw him off at the airport. The Jordanian monarch was also seen off by Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the amir of the Riyadh region; and 'Abdallah an-Nu'aym, the mayor of Riyadh.

FAHD BRIEFS CABINET ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORTS

LD172310 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2050 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 17 Jan (SPA) -- The Cabinet met tonight under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

After the meeting, Husayn al-Mansuri, the minister of communications and acting minister of information, told SPA that King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz briefed the council on the current contacts in the Arab arena and on the results of King Husayn of Jordan's visit to the Kingdom.

The minister said that King Fahd stressed the importance of the contacts the Arab seven-member committee had with the permanent member-states of the Security Council in implementation of the Fes summit resolutions, and the importance of maintaining the impetus of the peace process, which resulted from the Arab peace plan and which has met worldwide response, as it is the first unified stand toward the question of establishing a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

His majesty explained that the nature of the next stage necessitates the present move to unify Arab efforts aimed at establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region.

His majesty also stressed the importance of the time factor in bringing the Arabs together, so that the Arabs can confront the Israelis' plots and the expansionist plans at the expense of the Arab land as well as their attempt to obliterate the Palestinian issue.

His majesty the king said that in its tireless efforts for the sake of the Palestinian issue -- which is the Arabs' primary issue -- the Kingdom is anxious to overcome the marginal differences which might obstruct Arab relations and to raise Arab relations in order to meet both the Zionist challenges which are threatening the Arabs and the plots which are hatched by Zionism.

His majesty stressed the Kingdom's firm and constant commitment to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to the Israeli enemy's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, first and foremost Jerusalem.

The Cabinet also hopes that Lebanon, through the solidarity of its sons, will be able to restore the security, stability, and construction under the Lebanese legitimacy for which the sons of Lebanon aspire.

PDRY

ADEN REPORTS AD-DALI ADDRESS AT NONALIGNED MEET

GF142023 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Excerpt] During our country's address yesterday at the extraordinary ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau, which is currently being held in Managua, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the Central Committee and foreign affairs minister, denounced the U.S. maneuvers on our country's borders and explained the threats resulting from the increase of the military presence and the expansion of the U.S. bases in our region. He also denounced the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy against our Arab peoples and the unlimited support of the U.S. Administration to Zionism, for the continuation of the expansionist and hostile policy, the Israeli occupation of Lebanon, and its attempts to destroy the national gains achieved by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, its sole legitimate representative.

The foreign affairs minister drew attention to the hostile U.S. moves in Central America supported by the United States and, in this regard, he denounced the hostile and terrorist campaigns waged by the U.S. Government against Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada and the facilities which the U.S. Government is employing in liquidating the national liberation revolutions to serve its strategic interests and consecrate its political, economic, and military hegemony in various regions in the world. He affirmed our country's support to Cuba in restoring the island [as heard] of (?Guantanomo), which is occupied by the United States, and affirmed his support to the Nicaraguan revolution. He also denounced the oppressive U.S. policy against the struggles of the peoples of El Salvador, Puerto Rico, Chile, Guatemala, and other peoples of the region.

Brother ad-Dali denounced the U.S. diplomatic and economic relations with the two racist regimes in Tel Aviv and Pretoria and, in conclusion, he called for respecting the principles of self-determination of the region's peoples so that they may enjoy their rights to make political, economic, and social changes to restore their control over their national resources as well as respecting their struggle along with the developing countries to establish a new economic system.

MUBARAK NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW ON CURRENT AFFAIRS

NC180847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] New York, 18 Jan (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has called on PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to unite the efforts of all wings inside the organization, reach an agreement with King Husayn of Jordan, and begin the negotiations to solve the Palestinian problem.

The president warned that the passage of time without reaching a solution to the problem will give an opportunity to the Israeli settlement policy.

President Mubarak affirmed that Egypt has been exerting its utmost efforts for the Palestinian issue since 1949. He said: During my forthcoming visit to Washington I shall discuss with President Reagan what should be done to push the peace process, implement the Reagan plan, and achieve a comprehensive settlement to the Middle East problem.

In an interview granted to Mr Ron Moreau and published by NEWSWEEK magazine in its latest issue, President Husni Mubarak affirmed that the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon will help to improve Egyptian-Israeli relations.

The text of President Husni Mubarak's interview with NEWSWEEK follows:

Question: You are said to be unhappy over the U.S. policy in the Middle East since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. What will you suggest to President Reagan?

Answer: The relations between Egypt and the United States are good. During my visit to Washington I shall discuss with President Regan once again what should be done to push the peace process, implement the Reagan plan, and achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem.

Question: Do you really believe that there is a chance for the Reagan plan to succeed?

Answer: If the Palestinians and King Husayn were able to achieve a quick agreement on settling their relations, I think that there will be no excuse for anyone not to start negotiations on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The main point is for King Husayn to reach agreement with the Palestinians and 'Arafat to form a unified delegation to negotiate the problem.

Question: Does this delegation include the PLO?

Answer: Perhaps. The PLO is present in every place. It is present in the West Bank and even in the United States. This does not represent a problem.

Question: Has the Camp David peace process become a dead card?

Answer: You cannot say that it is a dead card. Reagan's plan aims at improving the Camp David accords. The Camp David accords are the only document by which Egypt, Israel, and the United States abide.

Question: Some Egyptians have described your relations with Israel as "cold peace." Do you think that a break in relations between the two countries could take place if matters continue to deteriorate?

Answer: I do not think that the relations will further deteriorate. I also hope that the Israelis will not do anything that will affect our relations. We deal with Israel like we deal with any other state. The Israelis are mistaken if they think that the normalization of relations gives them special relations.

Question: What will especially help to improve Egyptian-Israeli relations?

Answer: The Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, of course.

Question: Do you think, Mr President, that the passage of time without reaching a solution will be an opportunity for the Israeli settlement policy?

Answer: Yes, I think so. It is something that prompts me to urge King Husayn and the Palestinians to reach an agreement.

Question: What do you say to Yasir 'Arafat?

Answer: All the wings inside the PLO should unite their efforts and reach a solution with King Husayn to start negotiations. The Palestinians must exploit the Reagan plan. The strong elements in it should be implemented and the weak elements should be raised at the table of negotiations.

Question: What hinders the restoration of relations between Egypt and the other Arab states?

Answer: I do not know what the problem is. Egypt is exerting its utmost efforts for the sake of the Palestinians. We have been a party in the Palestinian problem since 1949, and Egypt helps them more than any other state.

Question: Have you asked the Egyptians to limit their economic expectations?

Answer: There are some people who want a quick change. But I have decided not to resort to the method of electric shock. 'Abd an-Nasir resorted to this method when there was need for it, and so did As-Sadat. But what we need now is stability.

Question: Is the United States assisting Egypt sufficiently from the economic standpoint?

Answer: We have asked the United States to be more flexible. I still demand that we be accorded the same treatment as Israel.

MUBARAK MEETS WITH NDP LEADERS ON ISSUES

NC151401 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning met with the National Democratic Party [NDP] secretaries on the governorates level. Following the meeting, Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif said that the discussions during the meeting dealt with several issues related to the NDP and its moves on the governorates level. He said that President Mubarak has supported his instructions regarding the NDP's course in its capacity as the majority party. He pointed out that the party has a great role to play in democratic practice and in deepening its experience. The NDP, therefore, must make the masses avoid all the negative aspects of democratic practice by providing objective answers to anything that harms our people's traditions and Egypt's reputation and history and by exposing the issues that confuse public opinion.

Ash-Sharif said that President Mubarak pointed out that all the NDP leaders and the state's executive and popular bodies must explain only the facts, because we want nothing but facts. He said that all the NDP bases must participate in the objective dialogue. Mubarak further said that we are only working for Egypt's benefit and will not cover up any error. We must confront anything that harms Egypt's values and institutions or any of its leaders or history, Mubarak said. He further said that all Egypt's institutions are great bastions for Egypt and the Arab nation and that their reputation must not be harmed. Regarding what has been published about the Universiry of Cairo, Mubarak said that it does not satisfy any Egyptian that the Cairo University's reputation and sanctity be harmed, because it is a great bastion not only for Egypt, but for the Arab world. The University of Cairo has graduated Egyptian scientists as well as the Arab nation's leaders and scientists in all branches of knowledge and arts, scientists who enriched the world with their knowledge.

Mubarak said that the NDP must not be engaged by anything other than serving the masses, particularly since we are heading toward a plan of development and construction. A suitable atmosphere is necessary for the society to work. By earnest work and hope, we will achieve progress on the sound path, Mubarak said.

Safwat ash-Sharif said that regarding Egypt's Arab role and the Palestinian question, Mubarak said that the Arabs and the Palestinians must exploit the available opportunity and the U.S. initiative in the interest of the Palestinian cause. Ash-Sharif said that Mubarak also reviewed what Egypt has contributed to the Palestinian cause and the circumstances surrounding it in light of the international variables. He said that had the Palestinians and Jordanians not missed the Mena House meeting in 1977 in Cairo, the situation would have been better than now. Therefore, we must not miss the opportunity to establish a comprehensive and just peace. He said that Egypt with all its weight is exerting efforts to achieve the Palestinian right. Egypt's strategy stems from its will and that of its people.

Concluding his statement, Ash-Sharif said that at the end of the meeting, Mubarak noted that the goal of his forthcoming trip to the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and France is to set forth the Egyptian policy and to stimulate bilateral relations between Egypt and the leaders of these countries.

CAIRO PRESS ON U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS

NC160858 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 16 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] In its editorial today, The newspaper AL-AHRAM comments on the request that U.S. President Reagan has made to Begin not to put pressure on Lebanon at the negotiations underway for the purpose of inducing Lebanon to recognize Israel through the process of normalization -- and Tel Aviv wants normalization to head the agenda of the discussions. On this basis, the paper explains, we can expect Begin to ask Reagan not to put pressure on Israel, too. Furthermore, the paper notes that the word "pressure" implies several factors of change as far as Israel is concerned, or even as far as any other side is concerned. Furthermore, the paper notes, it is desirable to substitute the word "pressure" with another one which would not trigger off that much sensitivity. This holds particularly true when it comes to sensitive situations.

Other words such as "influence," "persuasion," and "induction" [at-ta'thir], which a friend can wield as far as his friend is concerned to induce the latter to make concessions, could be used. The reason is that "pressure" is mainly connected in the mind with "potency," "domination," and mustering the power to inflict punishment to impel others into submission. Inasmuch as these things exist in the world of politics, they absolutely do not exist in the U.S.-Israeli special relationship.

AL-AHRAM concludes its editorial with the affirmation that the sole course existing in the strife involved in the negotiation is for the Arabs to streamline their power of influence in a convincing manner that would induce the United States itself to play the role of a just partner. The United States would achieve this objective by also adding its friendly power of influence, and not by haughty pressure on Israel.

Concerning the same subject and under the title, "The Determination of the Fate of the Reagan Initiative," the newspaper AL-AKHBAR says for the second time: News reports now reaffirm that the relations between the United States and Israel are tense and that this tension has become more acute.

These reports add that Washington now speaks of the likelihood of the cancellation of Menahem Begin's visit to the United States if no progress is made at the negotiations on Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

The paper adds: Events show that it is a fact that these relations are tense. However, this tension is not one that has broken out between the United States and Israel. In other words, this tension is not in a sense one that encompasses the two states. It is confined to U.S. President Reagan and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. The cause of this tension is the Reagan initiative and Begin's rejection of this initiative on a withdrawal from Lebanon and on the building of settlements.

The paper AL-AKHBAR notes that Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon's visit to Washington had an objective that was not remote from the dispute between the United States and Israel, or, as we have said, between Reagan and Begin. It is not usual for the Israeli president to hold talks in Washington or elsewhere. However, it is clear that in his talks, Navon was trying to ease the situation for Begin and to deputize for him in conveying Israel's stance on the Reagan initiative. This is what the statements made by Navon at a press conference in New York give one to understand. Navon said that Israel desires to improve its relations with the United States and that he is certain of U.S. President Reagan's desire to achieve peace in the Middle East. Navon then affirmed that, nevertheless, Israel is not prepared to make any concessions. This statement gives one to understand that Israel is not responsive to the Reagan initiative.

With regard to inter-Arab affairs, the Lebanese newspaper AL-ANWAR speaks of U.S. envoy Philip Habib's mission in the Middle East. The paper says the U.S. envoy carries a letter from President Reagan to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil on the situation and the developments in the area. This letter reaffirms the positive stance of the U.S. Administration toward the Lebanese crisis as well as the interest that President Reagan takes in the need for finding a solution for this crisis.

The Lebanese paper adds that Philip Habib has brought with him a plan for the withdrawal processes, including the phases to achieve these withdrawals seen from the premise of the U.S. stance in needing to put pressure on Israel in this respect.

The paper notes that the withdrawal timetable specifies a start of the Israeli forces' withdrawal at the beginning of next month and, more specifically, on the 12th of next month. The paper affirms that the U.S. Administration will seek to fulfill this objective.

PROSECUTION DEICDES TO RELEASE 15 DEFENDANTS

NC171617 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1338 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 17 Jan (MENA) -- The Supreme State Security Prosecution today decided to release 15 accused persons detained in connection with various cases, including 5 persons held in connection with the National Front organization case No. 532 for the year 1980, 7 others accused in connection with the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation [Tanzim at-Takfir wa al-Hijrah] case No. 236 for the year 1982, 2 persons accused in the Al-Jihad organization case No. 462, and 1 person accused in the Hizb Allah organization case No. 192 for the year 1982.

F-16 PLANES INCORPORATED INTO AIR FORCE

NC171501 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1354 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jan 9MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today attended a ceremony held at an airbase by the Air Force on the occasion of the incorporation of the most modern brigade [liwa] of F-16 fighter planes into the Air Froce now that this brigade has completed its training according to program.

The president also saw the first air display by the F-16 planes. The display was also seen by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib; Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minsiter and minister of defense and war production; Planning Minister Kamal al-Janzuri; Major General Jamal as-Sayyid Ibrahim, minister of state for war production; Armed Froces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd ar-Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz; the Air Force commander, and some members of the People's Assembly, the Consultative Council, and the Air Force commands.

OPINION POLL ON RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

PM171045 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Jan 83 pp 11, 17

[Majdi Ahmad Husayn article: "Results of Public Poll on Relations With Israel: 82.3 Percent 'Yes' To Expelling Israeli Ambassador, 76.11 Percent 'Yes' To Severing Relations With Israel"]

[Excerpts] An opinion poll conducted by ASH-SHA'B has shown that the great majority of the Egyptian people in their various classes, factions, and communities reject the presence of the Israeli ambassador in Egypt as long as Israel is carrying out its aggressive, criminal, and expansionist actions in Egyptian, Lebanese, Syrian, and Palestinian territories. A slightly smaller percentage of the Egyptian people favors a total severance of relations with Israel for the same reasons on the basis of the national and historical view that rejects the legitimacy of the Zionist entity regardless of the form it takes.

Almost all the participants in the poll agree that Israel is a "strategic enemy" and that its interests are contrary to the national interests of the Egyptian and Arab peoples.

Precisely 1,486 citizens took part in the poll. In reply to the first question, which was "Are you in favor of the expulsion of the Israeli ambassador?" 82.23 percent said "Yes," 13.12 said "No,"and 4.65 had no opinion.

In reply to the second question, which was "Are you in favor of severing diplomatic, economic, political, and cultural relations with Israel?", 76.11 percent said "Yes," 17.16 percent said "No,"and 6.73 percent had no opinion.

Returning to the Arabs

Some of those polled linked the question of severing relations with Israel to the need to restore normal relations between Egypt and the Arabs.

A small number of those polled explained their approval [for expelling the Israeli ambassador] as being due to the fact that Menahem Begin continues in office and that it has proved impossible to deal with a man like him. The proponents of this view, however, have hopes with regard to what they have heard about the "Peace Now" movement and other opposition movements in Israel.

The majority of those polled expressed the view that there is a need to stop particularly economic and cultural relations with Israel because of the material and mental invasion they represent, which can deeply infiltrate society -- infiltration which could have serious consequences for our internal policies. It is remembered that Zionism is experienced when it comes to infiltrating and influencing societies from within by economic, informational, and cultural means.

Those Who Object

First [objection]: Expulsion of the ambassador means reoccupation of Sinai.

We said at the beginning that those who took part in the poll were almost unanimous in saying that Israel is an enemy, although, for various reasons, their answers differed.

A large number of those who disagree with the expulsion of the Israeli ambassador of the severance of relations with Israel believe that conditions are not suitable and that Israel is a dangerous enemy that should not be provoked unless we are sufficiently prepared to confront him militarily and economically. They say that because of the vestiges of the past years Egypt is unable to strike two blows for one against Israel.

This view is also held by those who firmly believe that Israel will reoccupy Sinai or part of it if a decision is taken merely to expel its ambassador.

Second [objection]: Lack of desire to return to war climate.

The second overwhelming view, though it condemns Israel's policies, is that there is a fear that severing relations with Israel will take us back to the state of war. Those holding this view do not reject war simply for the sake of rejecting it but because past experience of wars with Israel "was not a happy one" in view of the Arab countries' attitudes.

HUNGARIAN PARTY OFFICIAL ARRIVES 14 JAN

NC141224 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) -- Gyuela Horn, deputy director of the International Relations Department of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, arrived in Cairo today on a 3-day visit. He will meet with Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and presidential adviser for political affairs, within the framework of talks on bilateral relations.

The Hungarian official was met on his arrival by Hungarian Ambassador in Cairo Miklos Nagy.

COMMUNIQUE: FIGHTERS ATTACK KHARK, GAS PLANTS

JN171739 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Communique No 968 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our armed forces, which have fought against the invading aggressors over the past 28 months and which have solidly and unwaveringly confronted the grudge-bearing Khomeyniite clique and its expansionist designs, are, God willing, capable at any time of confronting this clique's treacherous aggression, of wrecking its recklessness and deceit, and of teaching it new, eloquent lessons to be added to those taught it before in the war imposed on able Iraq and the glorious Arab nation. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. In retaliation against the spiteful Iranian regime, which has not given up its criminal and cowardly bombardment and strafing of our cities, harming of our population, and destruction of property and installations, our daring fighter planes at 1000 attacked the oil installations on Khark Island and the gas production and separation plants north of Ahvaz, scoring direct, precise hits on them. Our air force formations continued their intensive, effective air strikes all day today against the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the region opposite our positions in the Maysan operational sector as well as positions deep inside enemy territory, inflicting further losses in life and equipment. As a result of these courageous, successful strikes, the enemy was gripped by panic and perplexity. Fires were sighted destroying the enemy's positions and various equipment. After flying 83 combat missions, all of our fighter planes, praise God, returned safely to base.

2. An enemy concentration was sighted in front of our positions in the central operational sector. Our forces pounded it, killing four and destroying one observation post.

3. One observation post was destroyed and one soldier killed in the area east of Basra.

4. One was killed in the Maysan operational sector.

5. Using artillery, the evil Khomeyni clique today shelled Basra and Mandali, damaging some civilian installations.

[Singed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 January 1983

AL-MAJALLAH REPORT ON TARIQ 'AZIZ PARIS TALKS

PM170913 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 15-21 Jan 83 pp 3, 4

[Amir Taheri dispatch from Paris: "Tariq 'Aziz in Paris: Egypt Must Return to Arabs Without Preconditions; Iraq's Relations With It To Be Resumed Earlier Than Expected; We Support Jordan-PLO Coordination; Our Cooperation With U.S. Developing; Russia Resumed Arms Shipment"]

[Excerpts] Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz's visit to Paris last week was an important occasion shedding light on Iraq's current interests and future political trends. It was evident from information leaked regarding Tariq 'Aziz's talks with French officials and his various statements that there is a remarkable Iraqi interest in resuming diplomatic relations with Egypt quickly and that the current belief is Khomeyni has virtually lost the war and from now on will not be able to laucnh an "all-out attack" on Ira.

There is also a desire to strengthen relations with France in various fields, support for understanding between Jordan and the PLO, and understanding of the need to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict through peaceful negotiations.

The Iraqi official's talks with French officials focused on the following principal matters:

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, Iraqi officials do not believe that the war with Iran will end shortly, but rather expect it to continue for a long time and say they are prepared for it.

The Iraqis believe that from now on, Iran will no longer be able to launch an all-out attack on Iraq. The most that it can do now is to cease fire in order to prepare for other rounds. The Iraqis believe that Khomeyni poses a danger not only to Iraq but also to all the other countries in the region.

The Iraqis believe there is a need for other Arab countries to participate directly and militarily in this war because this would be a deterrent to Khomeyni and his plans.

With regard to relations with Egypt, it was evident from Tariq 'Aziz's statements that there is a great desire on the part of Baghdad to strengthen and consolidate those relations. The Iraqi official did not conceal his appreciation for Egypt's aid to Iraq in the war with Iran. Tariq 'Aziz was quoted as saying that "the decision to resume diplomatic relations between Iraq and Egypt will be taken sooner than expected. There are only a few technical points that need some work." 'Aziz met in Paris with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, and their talks dealt with the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries. AL-MAJALLAH has learned from knowledgeable sources that France encouraged this step and that Iraqi officials are currently in Cairo preparing for the resumption of relations. The sources said that Iraq would like some 40,000 Egyptian soldiers to be equipped and prepared to intervene in the war against Iran should it become necessary. The sources say that the Iraqis consider the placing of such an Egyptian military force in a state of readiness for intervention could be a deterrent to Khomeyni and his plans.

Military Cooperation

The French side has promised to act in Europe to support the Iraqi stand and curb some of the European aid to Iran. Al-MAJALLAH has learned that Spain and Italy have stopped the shipment of important arms consignments to Iran as a result of intervention by France.

The question of the economic difficulties which Iraq is currently facing as a result of the war with Iran was raised and there was French "understanding" of Iraq's position. Consequently, France promised to buy larger quantities of Iraqi oil on the basis of the price fixed by OPEC. There is a possibility that a long-term agreement will be signed in this regard. Also, the question of setting up a joint Iraqi-French institution to supervise the various aspects of cooperation between the two countries was discussed. The idea is now under consideration.

The French side promised to study the question of granting payments facilities to Iraq, rescheduling debts, and reducing down payments when contracts are signed.

The question of military cooperation between the two countries loomed large in the Iraqi-French talks.

French sources told AL-MAJALLAH that the Iraqi side has asked France to "speed up" the completion of the large missile network that is under construction, which will ensure total protection for the Iraqi skies when completed. The sources also said that France is currently developing Roland and Exocet missiles especially for Iraq so these can be fired on enemy targets from aircraft and static and mobile bases. The Iraqis have also asked for the faster delivery of modern aircraft such as the Mirage 3000A types. Iraq is currently receiving between two and four fighters a month from France.

The question of Iraq obtaining loans from certain European countries was brought up. The French promised to help in this regard.

PARIS MAGAZINE ON PLANS TO TOPPLE SYRIAN REGIME

JN141350 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1305 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Paris, 14 Jan (INA) -- The Paris-based weekly AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI today reports that since the end of last year the Syrian regime has been experiencing increasing anxiety and apprehension out of fear that the schemes of those who aim at toppling the regime may be crowned with success.

The magazine says that the fear reached its peak when the heads of the regime received information that the Syrian opposition was forging ahead with its plans to carry out a military coup. The magazine affirms that Friday, 19 November 1982, was the date set for this coup attempt. Hafiz al-Asad was compelled to summon the regime's officials, alert the military units, and cancel the leave of all officers of the armored brigades and air force.

The magazine quotes an informed Syrian political source as saying the regime's position has never been so weak for several reasons, such as the regime's support for the Iranian aggression against Iraq, its negative attitude toward the Zionist invasion and the massacres which have been committed by the invasion forces against the Palestinian resistance movement and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, its continuous attempts to disrupt the unity of the Palestinian resistance movement, and its suspicious role against the Arabs within the framework of the deceptive and tricky policy which is pursued by Hafiz al-Asad and his regime.

The magazine continues: The true face of the Syrian regime has been exposed. This regime supports U.S. initiatives by coordinating its policy with Israel's well-known policy. Furthermore, the relationship between Rif'at al-Asad [brother of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad] and the head of U.S. intelligence, and his suspicious contacts during his presence in the United States 2 months ago, have also been exposed.

The magazine affirms that while in the United States, Rif'at al-Asad contacted agents of the Mosad who collaborate with U.S. intelligence. It adds that there is coordination between the Syrian regime and the Zionist and U.S. intelligence organs with regard to the situation in Lebanon and to their endeavors that aim at partitioning Lebanon into statelets in the service of the Zionist schemes.

The magazine says that all signs indicate that the Syrian regime has become a captive of its oppressive organs and this will actually facilitate the planning to topple it by exploiting the security problem.

HUSAYN RETURNS FROM ARAB TOUR 17 JAN

JN171619 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland from Medina this evening at the end of visits to Iraq and Saudi Arabia which lasted 3 days.

His majesty was welcomed by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, acting prime minister and information minister; Bahjat at-Talhuni, President of the Senate; Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the National Consultative Council; Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd; ministers; the public security director, and the armed forces chief of staff.

Badran Comments on Talks

JN171835 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] At the conclusion of the visit His Majesty King Husayn and his accompanying delegation paid to Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Prime Minister Mudar Badran stated that His Majesty King Husayn had reviewed with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz the results of His Majesty King Husayn's mission as the head of the Arab seven-member committee to France, the USSR, the PRC, and Japan. The talks also dealt with the results of his majesty's meetings with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

His majesty outlined the course of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, which is based on the special, unique relations which exist between the two fraternal peoples and which aims at achieving a just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian issue through Israeli withdrawal from all the territories it occupied in 1967 and its recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

His majesty also discussed the Iranian aggression against fraternal Iraq and its impact on the Arab nation.

Prime Minister Badran added that the talks in the two fraternal countries were important and that viewpoints were identical with the Saudi and Iraqi brothers on all issues discussed.

QNA: INFORMATION MINISTER DENIES CONTRIBUTION TO RDF

GF151338 Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah has categorically denied U.S. press reports that the U.S. defense department, the Pentagon, has set up a plan to assign two brigades of Jordanian troops for what the reports called the tasks of rapid deployment in the Gulf region. In a telephone conversation reported in today's issue of the UAE-based newspaper AL-KHALIJ, 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah said that what was said by the American journalist Jack Anderson in THE WASHINGTON POST and the widely published reports on that are untrue and groundless. He said that such reports are carried at this specific time as an attempt by the Zionist entity and its allies to place more suspicion on any Jordanian move for peace in the region. He also said that the Zionist entity and its allies are not satisfied with the Jordanian-Palestinian move toward peace in this stage and therefore want to raise doubts about it. Abu 'Awdah said that any joint Jordanian-Palestinian move toward peace now or in the future will increase the concern of the Zionist enemy, especially if this peace is supported by the United States. He said: According to this understanding, we as Arabs have to expect many rumors from the Zionist information media, the Zionist leadership, and its allies at this stage.

SEVENTH NEGOTIATION ROUND ENDS IN KHALDAH

State of War Discussed

NC171124 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1103 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation covering Lebanese-Israeli-American negotiations at Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah -- in Arabic, French, and English -- processed from English]

[Text] This is the official delegation of the Ministry of Information reporting from Khaldah.

At exactly 1240 p.m. the first morning meeting ended and at 1250 the official Lebanese spokesman, Major Tarabay, announced the following:

The delegations carried on the discussions touching on general ideas relevant to the agenda for talks. And now a restricted committee in now meeting headed by Dr Fattal, representing the Lebanese side, Dr Rubenstein, the Israeli side, and Christopher Ross, the American side, to study the item of the termination of the state of war between the two countries.

This is the official delegation of the Ministry of Information from Khaldah.

Round Adjourned

NC171424 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1405 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation covering Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations at Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah -- live in Arabic, French, and English -- processed from English]

[Text] This is the official delegation of the Ministry of Information reporting from Khaldah.

At 1555 the spokesman for the Israeli delegation, Avi Pazner, came out to announce the following communique: We discussed today in the plenary session the various items of the agenda for the negotiations which was agreed upon last Thursday. It was decided to set up a subcommittee to study the questions of the termination of the state of war, and this subcommittee has already had its first meeting. Additional subcommittees will be formed as the talks progress, and the next session will be held at Qiryat Shemona next Thursday, 20 January.

This is the official delegation of the Ministry of Information from Khaldah.

Committee Discussing Withdrawals

NC171604 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] According to preliminary information, the discussions between the Lebanese and Israeli sides on the question of the termination of the state of war has branched to include the truce agreement [of 1948]. While Dr Antoine Fattal considered the agreement to be still in effect, Dr Rubenstein considered it canceled. Sources have not yet reported that the two sides have reached any agreement in this matter. This discussion took place within the framework of the committee on the termination of the state of war, one of five committees formed to discuss the topics on the composite.

The sources said that the committee on the withdrawal program, in which Lebanon was represented by Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan and Colonel Sa'id al-Qa'qur, started discussing the subject of the withdrawals and that no details have leaked from the discussions.

The Lebanese delegation to the negotiations will submit a report to President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at a meeting to be attended by the political operations staff.

Salim Briefs Fahd

NC171250 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] While King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was meeting with Jordanian King Husayn in the presence of Saudi Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal to discuss developments in the situation in the area, Foreign Minister Elie Salim held a [telephone] contact with the Saudi monarch within the framework of coordination among Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan and informed him on the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations.

Moreover, the president also held a contact with his envoy to Saudi Arabia and briefed him on developments in the current phase.

Another presidential envoy is expected to go to Saudi Arabia at the end of the current week to brief officials there on the phases covered by the Lebanese-Israeli liaison committee.

Al-Wazzan Calls for Support

NC171437 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today called on everyone to support the official Lebanese negotiator and not to let the actions of any party give a different impression.

In reply to a question, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said that the situation between President al-Jumayyil and himself had never been stronger and more united than it is today.

Officials Appraise Seventh Round

NC180802 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] The seventh round of the withdrawals negotiations in Khaldah yesterday, which assumed a practical character, has been the subject of appraisal at the meeting of the political operations room. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, General Coordinator of Negotiations Ghassan Tuwayni, presidential adviser Wadi' Haddad, and the Lebanese negotiating team led by Antoine Fattal, which consists of Antoine Barud, Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan, Staff Colonel Sa'id al-Qa'qur, and Staff Colonel Munir Ruhayyim.

President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil is due to preside over another meeting of the political coperations room Wednesday night to define the instructions to be given to the Lebanese negotiating delegation on the eve of the eighth round, which will convene in Qiryat Shemona on Thursday.

COMMUNIST LEADER CRITICIZES LEBANESE-ISRAELI TALKS

NC172024 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 15 Jan 83 p 3

[Excerpt] Secretary General of the Communist Action Organization Muhsin Ibrahim maintains that what was agreed upon in the sixth round of the negotiations between Lebanon and Israel is considered an official Lebanese acceptance of the Israeli conditions. He warned of the danger of the other chapters of these negotiations and what these chapters will produce in the form of translations of the agenda articles which will be consistent with the Israeli concept.

Ibrahim affirmed the Lebanese citizens' rejection of these negotiations, their present agenda, and future results. He said that "the role of of these citizens today is to shoulder the burden of the struggle against the creeping Zionist domination of their country."

SALIM DENIES POSSIBILITY OF TREATY WITH ISRAEL

NC171817 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim today met with the chairman of the editors syndicate, Milhim Karam, and discussed current affairs and information matters.

In reply to a question posed by doyen Karam on the negotiations and their duration, Foreign Minister Salim said: It has been estimated that they will last 1-2 months. However, Philip Habib, at President Reagan's (?suggestion), will propose agendas and solutions which may achieve extraordinary strides, making these negotiations end quicker than we had expected. However, we are cautious in this regard. We are interested in speed but afraid to be hasty. We want the Americans to maintain their role in these talks until the desired conclusion is achieved.

Doyen Karam asked: Will the negotiations end in a treaty? Minister Salim said: No, this is impossible. A protocol agreement, yes, but treaty, no. There is nothing to imply that there will be a firm or eternal position. That is out of the question.

The doyen asked: What about the Arab reaction and the mission of the Lebanese delegations to fraternal states? The foreign minister replied: Our information is that the delegations which have gone to the Arab states are receiving support for the Lebanese position. We shall not do anything with Israel without prior coordination with the Arab states. As the negotiations progress, we shall inform the Arab states about the stages step by step. We shall do nothing behind the backs of the Arab states. If we reach a stage in which our national interests contradict the major Arab interests, this would be serious. We shall then resort to intensive coordination with the Arab world, since we cannot imagine our interests conflicting with fraternal states. Our aim is to liberate the land, and this liberation does not conflict with the interests of any Arab state. If Lebanon is forced to do some things to liberate its land, we expect the Arab states to support this, especially since these things cannot be harmful to the interests of Syria or the PLO or any Arab state.

Regarding the U.S. position, Minister Salim said: The U.S. position has so far been sound, and the U.S. understanding of Lebanon's situation is profound. But to what extent and until when? We pose this question because ensuring the interests of Lebanon and Israel is a delicate operation. I cannot say that there is not a certain measure of apprehension in this regard.

SA'D HADDAD ON LEBANESE-ISRAELI TALKS, OTHER TOPICS

NC151206 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1008 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Speech by "free Lebanon" commander Major Sa'd Haddad on 15 January, place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] Brother Lebanese: I want to talk to you briefly about some points now being raised in the Lebanese arena. First of all, it is imperative for us to talk about the talks underway between Lebanon and Israel.

It is incumbent on us to observe first that the armistice treaty had indeed fallen when the Lebanese negotiators agreed to sit with the Israeli negotiators, albeit in the presence of the U.S. negotiators. We bless and support these negotiations. However, I tell the outbidders, who are still speaking of the armistice treaty, that this treaty has fallen.

Let us not mention the numerous causes for its downfall; let us just sum them up in two reasons: first, the armistice treaty stipulates that the meetings would be held under the auspices of the United Nations. The second point is that these meetings should be convened either in Ra's an-Naqurah or in Metulla. Neither of these two conditions has been met, because the meetings, whether in Khaldah or in Qiryat Shemona, are being held directly among the three parties -- Lebanon, Israel, and the United States. They are also being held in unspecific venues. We said what we have said so as not to embark on further subjects and to look for other reasons.

Therefore, the Lebanese side has officially recognized the fall of the armistice treaty. Therefore, we urge the outbidders to cease their outbidding and to tell the people frankly that this treaty has expired. This is because we are now looking for a new solution or a new treaty for the future relations betwen Israel and Lebanon. Let us open our hearts and broaden our minds so that we can achieve a solution that will safeguard Lebanon's safety, Lebanon's sovereignty, and Lebanon's stability. Such a solution will be achieved only when the negotiations end successfully. Then we will be able to evacuate all the occupation armies from Lebanese soil. Subsequently, there will be a treaty providing for a viable and joint peace between Lebanon and Israel. Why a joint defense treaty? This joint defense treaty is a guarantee of the future of Lebanon and the Lebanese against conspiracies. If we turn back a bit, we find that the conspiracies were hatched against us by Arab states and were nourished by the same states. All that we saw from the Arab states were calamities, tragedies, disasters, and losses in lives and property, not to mention the ruining of Lebanese sovereignty, Lebanese dignity, and the Lebanese entity.

At noon today I heard that some papers have published news that the PLO, before the beginning of the Israeli operation, had asked through the United States for a non-aggression treaty between itself and Israel. What does this signify? This signifies that the swindlers intended to stay in Lebanon forever and to proclaim Lebanon their state. Fortunately, the Israelis rejected this request and preferred to liberate Lebanon and to return it to its sons, rather than plot or join in the plot against Lebanon's fate.

In the name of all loyal Lebanese, we thank the State of Israel for its honorable stand. We also caution the still deceived Lebanese against the bad intentions of the Arabs and the swindlers [Palestinians]. The inhabitants of the south know this because they have experienced it. The inhabitants of An-Nabatiyah know how much they suffered from the terrorists. They know how the terrorists harassed them until they forced them to leave their town. What is said about An-Nabatiyah can be said about all towns and villages of the south.

What were these harassments for? They were to empty the south of its inhabitants to turn it into a state for the swindlers and ensure the protection of the borders of this state through a nonaggression pact with Israel.

Therefore, the intentions were very bad. We thank God who saved us from this big evil and who played a strong card -- The Israeli presence -- in the hand of the president of the republic with which he can bargain about the remaining Syrian-Palestinian presence in the north and Al-Biqa'. This has strengthened the position of the president. We support this and hope he will threaten the Arab states with this card so that they will put pressure on Syria and the swindlers to leave Lebanon. We are certain that Israel will willingly withdraw afterward.

We hope the negotiations will be crowned with success because this is to the benefit of the two countries. If the other subversive Arab states want to turn to the correct course and to respect and deal with Lebanon as a state and to respect its sovereignty and dignity, we will then be prepared to extend our hand to these states and to cooperate with them as equals.

Someone might say that if we conclude a peace treaty with Israel, the Arab states will get angry, will boycott us economically, and will expel Lebanese workers. We say: First, the Arab states need us more than we need them. This is because we export brains to the Arab states that lack brains. God created them without brains, so we can do nothing about it. Therefore, these states cannot dispense with the creative Lebanese brain. All of them know that they are greatly indebted to Lebanese brains for the progress that has been made in their countries. So if they want to return to the age of backwardness, let them dare expel the Lebanese.

If after all this the Arabs decide to expel the Lebanese, we ask them why they did not expel the Egyptians when Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel. If, however, the reason is that they find Lebanon weak or another reason, this is an additional reason for us to be cautious of the Arab states and to be more enthusiatic about consolidating our relations with the State of Israel.

Therefore, we hope for the best and we ask the Lebanese negotiators not to neglect the interests of Lebanon and the Lebanese. We also ask them to forget or not to lead the cacophanous voices being raised here and there because Lebanon's interest is above everybody. This interest must be achieved while bearing in mind that, should we speak of normalization, then normalization has indeed come about and has indeed become a fait accompli. Henceforth, no one will be able to stop a Lebanese merchant coming from Beirut to pick up the merchandise that he buys in Israel. The contrary holds true. Furthermore, [words indistinct] we must tell you that there is a project which we are now studying. This plan calls for Israel to permit the import of goods...[approximately 2-minute break in transmission]

The state of hostility and the state of war, on which negotiations are taking place, have indeed fallen when the Lebanese team has eaten bread and salt in Qiryat Shemona. In our country the Israeli team has also eaten bread and salt in Khaldah. There no longer exists the state of affairs called a state of hostility between Israel and Lebanon. However, it is imperative for us to observe that no concerted efforts have been exerted to withdraw or expel the Syrians and the swindlers from the north and Al-Biqa'. All efforts are being directed against Israel, whereas in fact Israel has not come to invade the Lebanese people and Lebanon. On the contrary, Israel came to strike at Lebanon's enemy -- and Israel has done so.

We hope the officials will focus their efforts on ousting the occupier Syrians and swindlers from the north and Al-Biqa'. The destruction, murder, and destitution wreaked by the Syrians in Tripoli are enough.

There is evidence that the Syrians do not want to leave Lebanon. Therefore, they dealt this strong blow to Tripoli to eliminate any resistance that might occur in the future to the Syrian presence in Tripoli or elsewhere.

It is imperative that the Lebanese officials are alert to this point. Furthermore, these officials must take advantage of Saudi Arabia's friendship to achieve the Syrian withdrawal. To this end it is enough for Saudi Arabia to lavish payments on Syria. We are certain that if funds become available Syria would withdraw immediately. This is particularly true because Syria is now in difficult financial straits and it is in need of revenue. Therefore, let Saudi Arabia graciously pay Syria to leave Lebanon.

On another domestic level, we inform the Lebanese that we have a promise from His Excellency Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon that he will expedite the release of the Lebanese detainees in Al-Ansar. We have been persuing and will continue to pursue the question until all the Lebanese are released. It is certain that in a short time everyone will return to his home in the hope that we will have learned a lesson from the past and will no longer deal with anyone against Lebanon's interests.

There is another question: Three days ago Dany Sham'un visited us. It is reported in AL-ANWAR today that Maj Haddad was scheduled to welcome Dany Sham'un at Al-Khardali bridge or Al-Awwali bridge, I do not know. In the address which Sham'un delivered, he said it was he who had sent for and is responsible for Maj Haddad.

I would like to clarify two points: From the very beginning I have been following the policy that I am with all Lebanese. I said my home is open to all. Any Lebanese wishing to come to my home is welcome.

I have learned that His Excellency [former] President Camille Sham'un was scheduled to make this visit but, due to health reasons, he was unable to come and delegated Mr Dany to take his place. According to the agreed itinerary, he would visit Al-'Ayshiyah, Al-Jarmaq, and Al-Qulay'ah and would have lunch in my home. This was his itinerary. In no case was it decided that Maj Haddad would welcome anyone at Al-Khardali or Al-Awwali bridges. I do not know how the AL-ANWAR correspondent obtained his information. I wish he would come forward so that I can explain this point to him.

The other thing is that when Maj Haddad came to the south he came only after securing a memo from the army command charging him with the command of the troops in the south. At the time I came by a ship belonging to the national liberals who at the time were securing transport between Haifa and Juniyah. The army command had no ship to operate on this line. I have been in command of the army. I am a military man, nonpartisan, and will never be a party member. I will remain a military man because militarism runs in my veins and I cannot abandon it. This is coupled with my respect and appreciation for all Lebanese parties and with my constant readiness to support and cooperate with all Lebanese parties working for Lebanon's interest. This is the fact which no one must forget.

In addition, at the receptions and in the speeches made, it was said that the Christian villages in southern Lebanon wanted to join the Lebanon mountain. I believe that the AL-ANWAR correspondent did not write the report correctly. I also believe that this was said in a way suggesting that these villages be treated as [part of] the Lebanon mountain [jabal lubnan] and not as joining the Lebanon mountain. If it was asked that these villages be treated as the Lebanon mountain on the basis that these villages do not enjoy their rights, this is true. These villages did not enjoy their rights before the war in Lebanon in 1975. During the war these villages were completely neglected and after the war officials did not show any interest in this area

We had expected all state organs to take action to help this area and its sons and to compensate them for what they had lost. Regretfully, nothing happened and we are still suffering from deprivation. The state has not paved roads, established schools, repaired electrical damage, or installed telephone lines, to mention but a few things.

We want to ask where the financial aid given to Lebanon goes. It is our right to ask this question and to receive frank answers. It is our right to tell officials that south council chairman Husayn Kan'an has been biased against the sons of these villages. He is a fanatic. We hope the new regime will remove him from this post and appoint a Lebanese who will work for all the Lebanese and not only for one faction. Even within the same faction, he does not demonstrate equality. He favors his henchmen. It is high time we found the right man for the right job.

We do not consider ourselves separated from the Lebanon mountain, the north, Al-Biqa', or Beirut. We in the south will remain in the south and within the southern governorate. We are proud of being from the south, because the sons of the south are the first people credited with Lebanon's steadfastness and liberation.

We want all areas to be given the same treatment, equality, and rights. We will not accept neglect from now on.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that we are currently reorganizing free Lebanon's army. Let everyone know that this army will work only in the interest of Lebanon, legitimacy, and Lebanese sovereignty. This army will consist of the sons of the south and western Al-Biqa', without any segregation or discrimination. The doors are open to all sons of the south, because they are more worthy of safeguarding their land and honor, particularly because we are sure that the current political situation in the other areas does not allow the establishment of a strong and reliable Lebanese army.

We say this while appreciating the Lebanese Army command, but regrettably there are many obstacles in the way of the army commander. It suffices that [a religious sects] council is enough to foil all attempts to set up a free Lebanese army. Conscription at present would not be successful in Lebanon but would be a disaster. If a step is taken in that direction, it will be a deadly blow to Lebanon's entity.

Therefore, we are in the process of establishing an army here where we have more freedom of action than they have in Beirut. We will establish a Lebanese army that will work for Lebanon, an army that will know its enemies and its friends. We do not want any member of the army to be deceived, unaware of where he is going. Every member wishing to join free Lebanon's army must know that he is requested to work constantly against Lebanon's enemies. He might one day be forced to fight against the Syrian forces and the swindlers present with them. This army will cooperate with its friends, the Israelis. We have not found a friend more loyal than Israel standing by us. The army will also defend Lebanon's sovereignty and legitimacy. It will also safeguard the treaties or agreements which will be concluded between Lebanon and Israel.

We do not include in our ranks those who come for the sake of money. We are the owners of a cause. He who finds himself qualified is welcomed, but those seeking material gain have no place among us.

Our duty, therefore, is to protect Lebanon and Lebanese territory. At present it is to protect free Lebanon. We are certain that in the future the state will sponsor this good national army as the future army of Lebanon. It will be the best thing they can do. It will be the best step and best decision made by the command and those concerned. We are sure they will do so.

Long may you live! Long live free Lebanon, a sovereignty and independent country!

AL-WAZZAN MEETS CONGRESS DELEGATION, SEES AL-JUMAYYIL

NC151337 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] At 1100 Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met at the government palace with a delegation of U.S. congressional advisers which is currently visiting Lebanon on a study mission. The delegation will leave Beirut for Damascus this afternoon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan explained to the delegation the situation in Lebanon and the effects of the Israeli incursion on the political, security, and social fields. He emphasized Lebanon's commitment to the principles of peace and international rights at a time when the actions of conflicting forces on Lebanese territory had adverse effects, causing difficulties and disasters to Lebanon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Despite its clear, just causes, Lebanon has been greatly neglected. Despite everything, however, Lebanon still abides by the principles in which is believes. The prime minister explained to the delegation Lebanon's needs to arise from the setback which has befallen all sectors and to exercise its effective role in the regional and international arenas.

Al-Wazzan then left the government palace for President al-Jumayyil's house in Sinn al-Fil where they held a meeting to evaluate the situation and the current discussions and preparations.

AL-BA'TH SCORES LEBANESE-ISRAELI AGENDA TOPICS

JN180726 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 18 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "Khaldah-Al-Khalisa Negotiations, Probabilities and Dangers," today's AL-BA'TH writes in its daily "Opinion" column: Yesterday's news reports indicated that the seventh session of negotiations among Lebanon, the enemy government, and the U.S. side had resulted in new developments. If these developments turned out to be true, they would be explained as having taken place in accordance with U.S. plans and Arab acceptance communicated to Washington by some agent Arab regimes. By so doing these regimes acquit themselves of any effort they may be able to exert in facing the serious eventualities which may take place in the future.

Yesterday's reports said that the Zionist side has imposed a new trend on the negotiations stemming from an agenda which the participating delegations are said to have approved at previous sessions. This trend led the negotiations to form committees in charge of discussing a host of issues, including: 1) putting an end to the state of war; 2) defining the framework for reciprocal relations between the Lebanese and Zionist sides; and, 3) drawing up security arrangements including the establishment of early warning stations.

The paper adds: The very agreement to discuss these three topics blows up the basic principles which depict the Khaldah and Al-Khalisa [Qiryat Shemona] talks as negotiations for evacuation and for restoration of Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanon. This acceptance brings the situation to a serious turning point threatening the security of the entire Arab nation.

Syria has frequently warned against deviating from the real purpose of the Khaldah-Al-Khalisa negotiations. It also warned against the intentions of the U.S. and Zionist allies and against departing from the general framework of the negotiations as drawn up by the resolutions of both the UN General Assembly and Security Council. Syria believes that there is still a chance to adhere absolutely to Lebanese rights, and not to relinquish them, regardless of the amount of pressure and its source. The aggressor must not be rewarded for his aggression and Lebanon must not yield to U.S. pressure, although Washington is trying to cancel the role of the United Nations and the international community by dictating its will and the will of the Israeli aggressor to the Arabs.

AL-BA'TH says: Syria, which seeks to see Lebanon restore its full rights to sovereignty over its territory, knows quite well the meaning of turning Lebanon through any agreement Washington and Tel Aviv intend to impose on it into a strategic position for the Zionist enemy from which he can threaten the security of both Syria and the Arab region. Therefore, all Arabs must move to avert this danger. Syria will employ all legitimate means to avert the fateful dangers regardless of the price or sacrifices.

CULTURE MINISTER CRITICIZES 'ARAFAT'S 'MANEUVERS'

JN171444 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The Damascus newspaper TISHRIN published an article today by Syrian Culture Minister Najah al-'Attar in which she sharply criticized PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his maneuvers with Arab reaction which, as she put it, have harmed the Palestinian issue on the Arab and international levels.

BEGIN-REAGAN MEETING REPORTEDLY 'POSTPONED'

TA171018 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Jan 83 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] A reliable Israeli source said yesterday that despite the firm denials issued in the last few days about an alleged postponement of the Begin-Reagan meeting, and about its being made contingent on progress in the Lebanon negotiations, the meeting has in fact been postponed from the middle of February to the beginning of March. The reasons for the postponement were also the prime minister's desire to meet with the U.S. President only after genuine achievements have been made in the negotiations, as well as the administration's desire to await decisions on the three following subjects:

-- The negotiations between Israel and Lebanon;

-- The findings of the commission of inquiry on Sabra and Shatila;

-- President Navon's decision as to whether he will serve an additional term in the presidency or enter political life.

The source went on to say that Philip Habib is an excellent diplomat and has succeeded in moderating the irate tone in Washington. Habib's softened words and the friendly atmosphere in which he conducts his talks notwithstanding, Jerusalem knows clearly today that Washington is most impatient and wishes to attain rapid and immediate achievements in regard to the Lebanon negotiations, and above all, regarding the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon or at least an Israeli declaration of its readiness to withdraw. This is necessary in order to persuade King Husayn to join the political process as soon as possible. Most of the president's advisers and aides are convinced that it is on the Reagan plan, if on nothing else, that gains can be reaped. In other (economic and social) domains, the president has not yet scored any significant success. This was why Philip Habib was dispatched to the region and why the U.S. Administration saw his mission as such an urgent matter.

RABIN COMMENTS ON TIMING OF BEGIN'S U.S. VISIT

TA141341 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 14 Jan 83 p 5 WEEKEND SUPPLEMENT

[Commentary by MK Yitzhaq Rabin: "The Visit to Washington -- Not Now"]

[Text] Misgivings and conditions about the date of the prime minister's visit to the United States were leaked in Washington this week. Although an authoritative U.S. announcement on this matter was not issued, the leak by administration officials -- to the effect that the date of the visit would be made conditional on progress in the negotiations with Lebanon, publication of the report of the statutory commission of inquiry about the massacre in the refugee camps, and President Navon's decision about his political future -- is unprecedented in relations between the two countries, especially in view of the fact that at stake are internal Israeli affairs. This may be regarded as a blunt U.S. attempt to influence the political apparatus in Israel.

Therefore, I wonder about the absence of an appropriate reaction on the part of Mr Begin and the Israeli Government.

It is understandable that the date for talks between the Israeli prime minister and the Washington administration should be set according to political and security developments in the region.

Hence, it would have been logical to make the date of the visit dependent on the course of the talks about a solution to the Lebanese problem or the expected visits to the United States by the Jordanian king and the Egyptian president. However, apparently that is not how things stand. If the Americans are making the prime minister's visit conditional on certain internal Israeli developments, Mr Begin had better take the initiative and announce the postponement of his visit at a later date to be set by him.

Two political and security issues, in which the United States is largely involved, are currently on the agenda: continuing negotiations on a solution to the Lebanese problem, and resuming the peace process based on the Camp David accords.

As for the first topic, the key problem lies in reaching an agreement about the withdrawal of all foreign forces from all Lebanese territory. Negotiations regarding this must be conducted by Jerusalem, Beirut, and Damascus. In other words: The arena for action is in the Middle East and not in Washington, and what is more, agreement in principle on this point already exists between Israel and the United States. Therefore, it is not vital at the present stage to hold a dialogue between the senior levels of both countries to bring about an agreement on the Lebanese issue.

The talks about establishing the autonomy in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip have been frozen for 2 years. It is absolutely clear to me that the chances for resuming them solely within an Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. framework are very dim. Therefore, without Jordan's joining the negotiating table there is hardly any chance of reviving the peace process based on the Camp David accords.

The United States has for several months been making intensive diplomatic efforts to persuade King Husayn to join the peace talks. However, the latter has not yet given his final reply. Given this state of affairs, there is no room for a meeting between the U.S. President and the Israeli prime minister to discuss this issue.

The aforementioned points lead to the conclusion that at the current stage, there is no central political or security issue which would justify an Israeli initiative for the prime minister's visit to Washington. Hence, Mr Begin would be well advised to make a move which would make it plain to the United States -- in view of its apparent attempt to meddle with internal Israeli affairs -- that he is not eager to leave for Washington next month, as planned.

To sum up: Israel must point out to the United States that negotiations about the evacuation of the foreign forces from Lebanese territory must be conducted by Ambassador Philip Habib in the Middle East. It must also reiterate to Washington that it would welcome Jordan's joining of the peace process based on the Camp David accords. Only when significant progress has been made on these two issues, would there be room for a meeting between the U.S. President and the Israeli prime minister.

MORNING PRESS ON HABIB MISSION, LEBANON TALKS

TA180642 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0435 GMT 18 Jan 83

[From the Review of Morning Press Editorials]

[Text] HATZOFE believes that Prime Minister Begin should reconsider the advantages of going to the United States, because if the United States wishes to exploit the visit in order to pressure him into accepting the Reagan plan, or into making other concessions, why make such a trip to Washington? He should consider if it would not be more beneficial to stay at home.

HA'ARETZ says that anyone who asked himself why the U.S. President asked Mr Habib to return to the area while Ambassador Draper is here has now got his answer: After giving the prime minister the message from President Reagan, Mr Habib asked him to appoint a special team which, together with Habib, could deal with accelerating the deliberations between Lebanon and Israel. The prime minister complied, and announced at the Cabinet session 2 days ago that he has appointed a team consisting of the foreign minister, the defense minister, and the director general of the Foreign Ministry. The ministers will not be able to argue that they do not understand the implication of the appointment of this special team, on which two members represent the Foreign Ministry while the defense minister is left solitary. The prime minister said explicitly that from now on the negotiations would be conducted along two parallel lines: through Philip Habib, who would continue his tours of the area, and as part of the Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona talks between the delegations. One could lend credibility to the prime minister's report that Mr Habib denied there being any link whatsoever between Mr Begin's visit to Washington and progress in the Lebanon negotiations, but in fact, the newspaper says there is still a link between the two issues. Mr Begin has on various occasions promised to officially adapt to the U.S. requests at this stage, but the substantive dispute still lies ahead and it is now already being waged with the official U.S. representative.

THE JERUSALEM POST writes that a sensible Israeli policy, focusing on nonbelligerency and security arrangements, could, in close cooperation with the United States, help extricate this country from the Lebanese morass, as the newspaper calls it, not overnight but soon enough, and in a manner fully consistent with true Israeli interests.

DAVAR says that the precedents established last year indicate that instead of being proud of the fact that the defense minister was the one who introduced Israel into Zaire, it would be better if Mr Sharon began planning a way to get us .t of there. The knowledge that while in Zaire it is difficult for the defense minister to get us further entangled in Lebanon, is no consolation for anyone following the present government's deeds. The war in Lebanon began, as everyone should remember, in an attack on Beirut precisely on a day when Mr Sharon was out of the country. One can only hope that as a result of the large delegation's visit to what the newspaper calls the country of the Congolese, we will be spared an African tribal song that goes something like: Take us with Sharon; we will fight for Zaire and will pay the full price for it.

COMMENTARY NOTES U.S. LOBBY IN COALITION

TA141641 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Jan 83 p 14

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: "The U.S. Lobby in the Coalition"]

[Text] U.S. diplomacy is apparently the only political factor that has not yet despaired of trying to converse with the coalition ruling Israel.

Throughout the Middle East, opportunities have opened up or options have closed, hopes have been raised or dashed. Many have tried their strength in the Israeli-Arab mess in Lebanon, or in Judaea and Samaria, and have subsequently taken their hands out. These include various European statesmen. Not so with Washington.

Indeed, Washington crammed into mediator Ambassador Morris Draper's crowded schedule a series of meetings with Israeli figures who are far removed from the daily handling of political problems. Draper has initiated meetings, surprising by their urgency, with Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg and Likud Knesset members Ehud Olmert and Roni Milo, in order to clarify matters; and as far as is known, the embassy in Tel Aviv continues to schedule similar meetings for him with coalition members.

The U.S. diplomat's parliamentary "lobby" is no different from what the Israeli Embassy does in Washington politics. There is nothing wrong with this; but the contact is so unconventional and is being conducted every day of the year on such a relatively low level that the urgency with which Draper is acting is arousing great curiosity: What is its purpose? What message does it bring?

Israeli-U.S. relations have reached a stage where the State Department has been forced to examine developments in the Israeli legislative body, which seems to have fallen asleep in this severely trying time in the relations between the two countries. Draper has an interest in knowing whether Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's criticism of Washington's role in foiling the Lebanon negotiations was publicized with the agreement of the coalition, or was accepted with understanding and willingness by its parliamentary factions. If Sharon single-handedly caused a deterioration in the relations with the Reagan administration, why did his colleagues disappear? And if Likud Knesset members are pleased with Sharon's approach, this could make the White House despair of any renewed dialogue with the current government. The hinted threat, to stop Menahem Begin's visit to Washington, is indicative of this U.S. school of thought.

Gloom moved Draper to calm the Israeli's fears. Henry Kissinger's view, imposed on the administrations that have worked after him, is that the Israeli mood is subject to sharp swings that could be dangerous, both in their aggressive and national depressive nature. Draper has come to dispel this impression, completely denying the claim that his country had obstructed the road to peace between Jerusalem and Beirut and that he is playing a leading role in this mission.

The third goal is cloudy, implicit, and cautious, and is intended to hit the government from behind, to arouse those sitting in the second row of Knesset benches to intellectual ferment and to examine what is accepted, to make them reconsider whether Jerusalem really wants to be dragged behind Sharon, who is becoming sharper -- beyond what is necessary -- in his hard-hitting formulations about the White House. In order to achieve this, the coalition Knesset members must be calmed; they must be promised that Washington is not against peace with Lebanon and that it is just Israel's neurotic fear that is disturbing its mental stability.

Draper has heard courteous, friendly answers. Milo is close to Yitzhaq Shamir's school of thought of pleasant talk. Ulmert is acceptable to Sharon, but does not express himself in the same way. Burg and Yehuda Ben-Me'ir also want to calm down the talk about the United States. They have said that there is not a rising wave of hostility toward Washington, that the friendship is as strong as ever, and that the entire dispute is restricted to the defined and limited issue of Lebanon.

But the parliamentary majority's answer to the U.S. probing has not been provided in the verbal marathon with Draper. It has been decided by the Knesset presidency. On coming to choose for itself urgent issues for clarification in the plenum, the presidency has turned down any legitimate political debate. Practical proposals by Yosi Sarid have been arbitrarily passed on to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee without any discussion. Only one issue made its way to the speaker's podium: Ge'ula Kohen of Tehiya expressed the moods in the coalition when she demanded that a discussion of the U.S. role in holding up the peace with Beirut be held. There is no logic in such selective choice, apart from the deliberate desire to vex Draper.

So far the U.S. "lobby" has not driven a wedge between the government and the Likud majority. Apart from a minority, the ruling faction also shares the opinion that peace can be made with Lebanon; Amin al-Jumayyil is prepared for peace with Ari'el Sharon if he gets U.S. backing. Washington, the Likud believes, knows this. But it fears that such a separate peace between Israel and Lebanon would reopen the scar in its relations with the Arab world inflicted at Camp David, and it is not prepared to put up with the temporary damage this could cause, despite the long-term profit it would bring with it. Therefore, the United States does not want an Israeli-Lebanese peace of this type. Hence, it needs the services of Saudi Arabia, Shafiq al-Wazzan, and other Muslim elements -- a fact which, in the Likud's opinion, is distancing the chance for peace. If Draper wanted to confuse this view by his series of lobby-talks, he could have expected to be disappointed.

He has also failed to impart optimism. Draper wanted to buy the hearts of the coalition Knesset members by showing that he had a plan for the departure of the Syrians and the PLO from Lebanon. if Israel would only be good enough to withdraw, Syria would not dare to obstinately stay in Lebanon, as Syria would be held responsible for the IDF also also remaining in its positions. But Jerusalem does not believe this, either. Therefore, the decisive majority in the Likud is following Sharon and carrying in its heart a heavy feeling that the Syrians are being elusive and that the Americans intend to "sell" Israel in return for the release of prisoners and a few security arrangements.

The Americans' main disappointment focuses on the weakness of the coalition's thinking. Either a revolutionary change is taking place in the Middle East, the beginning of a breakthrough, or there is a political-nationalist deception; unprecedented declarations are being heard from Iraq, the basis of which is willingness to accept Israel's existence; King Husayn is coming closer to the negotiating table and finds himself facing an Israeli Government terrified lest he propose an arrangement [hesder] that cannot be refused. Sharon also fears this possibility and this week he rushed to harden the conditions for the Palestinians' participation in the joint delegation with Jordan.

Under these conditions, the Likud needs a breath of fresh air; a reexamination of its positions, and courageous thinking that would reexamine all its conventions. It also needs new maneuvering horizons. Do they want to freeze the settlements during the negotiating period? What is preferable, to quarrel with the United States or to demand a genuine remuneration? For instance, freezing all settlements in return for a stop to all terrorism during the period of the political deliberations.

However, Likud 1983 suffers from a lack of emotion, an absence of vivacity, and ideological-political fertility [Poriyut ra'yonit medinit]. Draper, who is continuing with his coalition lobbying, can do nothing more than notice this.

'AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE' REACHED IN KHALDAH TALKS

TA171219 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] An agreement in principle was reached at noon in Khaldah according to which the plenum for negotiations will continue to convene twice a week in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona, and the subcommittees will operate separately. Up until now, the first subcommittee was established to discuss an end to the state of war. Its members are Elyaqim Rubinstein from Israel, Antoine Fattal from Lebanon, and Christopher Ross from the United States. The subcommittee is supported to present its first conclusions to the plenum this afternoon.

Our correspondent Anharon Barne'a reports that at the beginning of the discussions, Lebanon demanded discussing mainly the evacuation of foreign forces, and firstly, the evacuation of the IDF. But the Israeli delegation said no specific subject should be given preference and only after progress is made [tihye hitqadmut], by getting to the stage of phasing recommendations, will a subcommittee be established.

Further on Agreement

TA171442 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1438 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] In today's deliberations in Khaldah near Beirut, a framework for a declaration about ending the stage of war between Israel and Lebanon was achieved. At the end of the deliberations, our correspondent in Lebanon Alon Diskin reported that the declaration will apparently not contain any mention of the cease-fire agreements of 1949.

Radio Reviews Negotiations

TA171755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Report from Beirut by Ne'ir Einstein -- live]

[Text] At the seventh session today in Khaldah, the first step was taken toward achieving an agreement between Israel and Lebanon. The talks began this morning with a discussion of terminating the state of war. About an hour later, following a demand by Lebanese delegation head Antoine Fattal, the delegations went on to discuss the security arrangements. In the afternoon, the spokesmen for the delegations were able to state with satisfaction that the talks had progressed after a decision was made to establish a subcommittee to formulate a joint proposal for ending the state of war. Fattal, Elyaqim Rubinstein, the Foreign Ministry's legal adviser, and Christopher Ross, Morris Draper's assistant, sat in this subcommittee and discussed the matter for about 4 hours. There were no discussions in the plenum at the same time. The head of the Israeli delegation, David Kimche, reported on the developments to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

At the end of the seventh round of talks, Foreign Ministry spokesman Avi Pazner made the following statement:

[Begin Pazner recording] In the plenum today, the delegations discussed the various matters on the agenda, which had been agreed on last Thursday in Qiryat Shemona. It was decided to establish a subcommittee to discuss the matter of terminating the state of war. This subcommittee held its first meeting today. We will set up additional subcommittees as the negotiations progress. The plenum's next session will be held on Thursday in Qiryat Shemona. [end recording]

In today's discussions, the Lebanese demanded that subcommittees be set up immediately to deal with the various sections, but Israel rejected this, agreeing only to the principle that discussions be held in subcommittees to be set up in keeping with the progress of the negotiations. It is worth noting that today's discussions began in a good spirit, after Israeli delegation head David Kimche denied Lebanese press reports that Israel and Syria had agreed to divide up Lebanon. Kimche's denial was gratefully accepted by the Lebanese delegation head.

REPORT ON MFO SOLDIERS KILLED 17 JAN 'ERRONEOUS'

TA171708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Two U.S. soldiers from the Multinational Force and Observers in Ofira were wounded when the vehicle they were traveling in ran over a mine. No U.S. soldier was killed, as had been reported earlier. This report originated in an erroneous statement by one of the wounded while he was being taken to the hospital in Elat.

U.S. CONFIRMS SOVIETS STATION SAM-5'S IN SYRIA

TA180521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] U.S. intelligence sources have confirmed that the Soviet Union has stationed SAM-5's in Syria, whose range is about 300 km. According to the sources, two consignments of missiles -- each containing apparently six missiles which is understood to be the number of missiles in each battery -- arrived in Syria last week. The missile sites, near Damascus and Homs, will become operational within 6 weeks according to this report.

In the opinion of the U.S. sources, hundreds of Soviet technicians will operate the missiles, which will be stationed outside the Soviet Union for the first time. In addition to their long-range, these missiles are more effective than the SAM-7's in combatting high and medium-altitude aircraft.

Our Washington correspondent Shalom Qital adds that President Reagan has instructed that any intelligence information on those missiles be transmitted to Israel, because they constitute a security threat to Israel.

MA'ARIV ON USSR, 'ARAFAT, SAM-8'S IN JORDAN

TA171229 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Jan 83 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "SAM-8's in Jordan"]

[Text] Soviet-made SAM-8's have recently been brought to Jordan.

Soviet experts who will lend their expertise to the installation of the missiles also arrived, at a time when Washington is awaiting King Husayn's final answer on whether or not he will join the talks on autonomy for Judaea and Samaria.

King Husayn wants to join the negotiations, but he needs the approval of Yasir 'Arafat. The latter in turn requires the OK of Yuriy Andropov. The Soviet leader has expressed a readiness to allow 'Arafat to set up a confederacy with Jordan after a Palestinian state is established, but he was not prepared to let 'Arafat conduct negotiations on the basis of the Reagan plan.

The Soviet approval for a confederation between the Hashemite Kingdom and the Palestinian state was not an 'Arafat achievement reached during his visit to Moscow. The Soviet expert for Middle Eastern affairs, Dr Yuriy Primakov (who in 1967 held a confidential visit to Jerusalem and met with the prime minister), expressed his support for the idea of a confederation during his visit to Beirut a few weeks ago.

Certainly, the Soviets want a "Trojan-Palestinian horse" introduced into Jordan. It would grant the Soviet Union a political and military maneuvering space inside the confederation, which is why it is highly doubtful whether such a confederation would actually help sustain the independence of the Jordanian monarchy.

At any rate, Yuriy Andropov's acceptance of the confederation notion, which is a hymn for the future, allows 'Arafat to try to gloss over his own acceptance of the version of the joint communique he signed in Moscow, in which the United States was condemned for its "Reagan plan."

Husayn is being very cautious not to express any support for the Camp David accords. He continues to talk about the Arab countries' "Fes plan," supported by 'Arafat, and even Yuriy Andropov, not to mention Yasir 'Arafat. Yet Andropov is pressuring 'Arafat not to lend his hand to a plan that would guarantee "an American arrangement" [hesder] in the Middle East.

President Reagan's counselors, who shoved the plan named after him down his throat, are trying to prove that their plan is really making progress, because 'Arafat is accepting some kind of link with Jordan. But this is not so. This is not the kind of link that is aimed at ruling out a "Palestinian state" as President Reagan presented it on 1 September, rather it is "a link with a Palestinian state."

What was clearly shown in the debate on the Reagan plan is that it has made the ties between the Arab countries and Moscow even closer and tighter. Not only 'Arafat, but also the Saudi foreign minister made a pilgrimage to Moscow, the first time in Saudi Arabia's history. And now Jordan has just received Soviet missiles for the first time.

The Peace for Galilee war has given the Americans a golden opportunity to fortify their standing in the region, but the "State Department" officials have forfeited it, squandering this chance when trying to add to an arrangement [hesder] in Lebanon "a comprehensive solution" of the Israeli-Arab conflict. In so doing, they gave a booster shot to 'Arafat's maneuvering capability -- and he is being directed by Moscow. Yuriy Andropov will let 'Arafat play with the Americans, embarrass them, and bring about a split between Washington and Jerusalem, but under no circumstances will he allow the "Reagan plan" to become a basis for a Middle East arrangement [hesder]. This was very explicitly stated in the joint communique issued in Moscow at the close of Yasir 'Arafat's visit to the Kremlin.

BRITAIN'S HURD ON ARMS EMBARGO, RELATIONS

TA180705 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] The British arms embargo on Israel will only be lifted when the IDF withdraws from Lebanon, Minister of State Douglas Hurd said in London last night, when talking to Yosi Melman. At the same time, he expressed his hope for the improvement of relations between England and Israel.

[Begin recording] [Melman] I hope 1983 will bring an improvement, and moreover, a turning point in bilateral relations, and that a new era will begin that year, British Minister of State Douglas Hurd said, emphasizing that at present the relations are good.

[Hurd -- in English] I think that the relationship with Israel is at the purely bilateral level, dealing between the two countries, is friendly and normal. I think that the difficulties of the last 2 years have arisen because we have different perceptions of the general situation in the Middle East.

[Melman translates the above into Hebrew and continues] We in the British Government support the Palestinians' right. We oppose the policy of settling in the West Bank and oppose the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Douglas Hurd added, emphasizing that his government would lift the arms embargo imposed on Israel some 6 months ago only after the IDF withdraws from Lebanon. [end recording]

DAVAR ON HUSAYN-'ARAFAT MOVES IN WEST BANK

TA171546 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Jan 83 p 7

[Commentary by Yehoshu'a Tadmor: "On the Eve of a New Situation"]

[Text] The gloomy winds blowing from Washington last week, the warnings about Prime Minister Menahem Begin's visit, the postponement of signing the agreement on exchanging military information, the delay in supplying the F-16's, and other pressures -- all these have suddenly given way to a calm atmosphere of smiles and hopes. All this comes in the wake of the agreement on the agenda for the Lebanese-Israeli talks and in view of the stalemate in the Husayn-'Arafat talks in Amman. Nevertheless, various acute questions still persist regarding Israeli-Arab relations.

Following marathon talks with 'Arafat, Husayn has at this stage failed to compose a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to attend talks regarding an arrangement with Israel, despite his pleadings that time is running out and Israel is seizing control of the remainder of the West Bank. However, Husayn's efforts have not been totally in vain. They left their impression on vast sections of the Palestinian population due to Husayn's leak of some of the documents on the assurances he received from President Reagan concerning a freeze on settlements, a solution to the Palestinian problem, and other elements of the President's plan. All this has happened at a time when the rift with Israel is once again becoming deep, as reflected in the harsh denunciations, the postponement of Begin's visit to the United States, and the President's demands for a softening of the Israeli position on various issues. In view of the clauses on an arrangement in Lebanon, and the predicted pressures on economic and military issues, several questions arise:

Is there any truth to the extensive report from Amman on Radio Monte Carlo that President Reagan has already agreed in principle with King Husayn over a new plan which would help establish a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to participate in negotiations on the West Bank? Assessments in Jerusalem go both ways. On the face of it, the story is too premature; after all, it is unlikely that President Reagan would decide on such a move behind Israel's back since this to no small extent contravenes the Camp David accords and the 5-year autonomy plan, and given the fact that the Arab-U.S. demands speak of a freeze on all settlements. All these will pave the way for the rapid establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and will curb the "massive settlement drive" in the West Bank.

Also, we accelerated these expected developments through our bombastic and declarative policies.

However, no one in Israel can tell whether this report is true. Americans usually do not behave in such a fashion when it comes to matters of principle. Moreover, internal constraints in the United States and pressure groups would not easily agree to the imposition of such a devastating solution on Israel. Now there is talk about autonomy for only 6 months, not to mention reference to a general withdrawal, just to please the PLO and the Arab countries.

On the other hand, it is very interesting to note that all of Yasir 'Arafat's recent talks in Amman were highlighted by the establishment of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the negotiations. Both sides bypassed all the disputed matters of principle. The main goal of both King Husayn and 'Arafat seems to be to act fast now to "rescue" the West Bank from Israel's hands because otherwise they will be left with nothing to struggle for. If this assessment is correct, then both Husayn and 'Arafat have undergone a real change.

The purpose of this change is to assure the return of the West Bank without losing any time, or at least to obtain U.S. guarantees from the president that the West Bank will indeed be handed over as soon as possible, within 6 to 12 months at the longest. This agreement in principle between King Husayn and 'Arafat is the result of very intensive U.S. persuasion efforts over the last year. These efforts climaxed in the talks between Husayn and President Reagan in Washington. The main argument is that if the Arabs do not, within a few months, make tireless efforts to regain the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, they would lose the struggle; hence, the intensity of Husayn's and 'Arafat's recent moves in Amman, which are more focused at present on the composition of the list of names to the negotiations than on issues referring to the confederation, the future government, and so on. According to this thesis, Husayn is in a hurry and is eager to announce his willingness to negotiate, hoping that such a declaration would lead to a pledge by President Reagan to return the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. If this thesis is correct, then it means that a U.S. pledge has not yet been issued and that the report from Amman is somewhat premature. President Reagan and his administration have presumably embraced this approach in principle and are now awaiting Husayn's announcement and 'Arafat's consent to include the Palestinians in the talks. The other moves will then follow.

However, all this is definitely incompatible with the Camp David accords, 5 years of autonomy, and other elements of the accords and the Israeli Government is certain to raise hell.

Nevertheless, we fear that something serious has already taken place behind Israel's back despite skeptical assessments in Jerusalem. Mati Steinberg, a well-known expert on the PLO issue who dedicated 5 years to an academic research of the development of this organization, discerned this trend in the process of his scientific analysis of documents and moves. He noted the tortuous changes in the PLO's elite and its willingness to reach an arrangement with Israel almost 3 years ago. He based this assessment on remarks made by Uri Avneri and his friends following political talks. Even if we do not accept the assessments of officials in the Foreign Ministry and the prime minister's office, and claim that there may already be a U.S. agreement in principle with Husayn, these and similar evaluations cannot be ignored.

It is clear that not all the issues have been concluded. However, the very fact that King Husayn and 'Arafat dealt throughout their recent talks with the personal composition of the delegation to negotiations corroborates our view that there are also personal and political problems between Jordan and the PLO and that it will be necessary to recruit outside support once 'Arafat has been severely brainwashed in Moscow. This will be followed by a round of talks in the Arab capitals with the hope of getting their backing and then the agreements will come. In view of the fact that Iraq is in favor of talks and that Cairo, standing behind Amman, is even encouraging Saudi Arabia, Husayn will earn massive support.

Another question is when and how they will make a declaration, how it will be formulated, and other critical questions which might "blow up" the Palestinian-Jordanian camp more than once. However, once they have agreed on a strategy, Husayn and 'Arafat will pull the cart, even if they have to take a road full of obstacles. They will have to get the consent of the PLO National Council -- a type of PLO parliament -- and of the Executive Committee, and the basic political documents will have to be approved. However, if 'Arafat retains his strength and is not slain by the Syrians or their emissaries, they will achieve this support.

Why do we not make light of the report broadcast by Radio Monte Carlo? Because there have already been exchanges between U.S. representatives and envoys and PLO representatives in the distant and the very recent past. These very days there are definite signs that contacts have been held between PLO leaders and unofficial U.S. representatives about everything pertaining to guarantees from the U.S. President, who is seeking to raise King Husayn's prestige and is ready to make a big step toward the Palestinians and Husayn before it is too late.

If reports about Husayn's moves and 'Arafat's consent are correct, there is no doubt that Israel will soon stand on the verge of a new situation, because Husayn is not talking of what is known to us as "the Jordanian option," the federation, and the rest of it. Due to his anxiety over the dense wave of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, he finally realized that time is running against Jordan and the Arabs at large and he decided to adhere to a Palestinian solution in the West Bank. This is the essence of the change in Husayn's position. What is important for Husayn at this stage is that any Palestinian solution be moderate and not adversely affect Jordan's affairs. This is the big and serious change.

'ARAFAT NAMES DELEGATION MEMBERS TO TALKS

TA171914 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] A Saudi paper has said that Yasir 'Arafat has agreed to include six Palestinians from the territories in the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks with Israel. The six are: Rashad ash-Shawwa from Gaza; Ilyas Frayj from Bethlehem; Anwar al-Khatib from east Jerusalem; Fahd al-Qawasimi, who was expelled from Hebron; Hikmat al-Masri from Nabulus; and Jamil Khalas. The report comes from Jordanian sources.

One of the people mentioned, Hikmat al-Masri, told our correspondent that when he was in Amman, no one spoke with him about his incorporation in such a delegation. In his opinion, the talk about the delegation is premature. Hikmat al-Masri was in Amman when PLO head 'Arafat was there.

INTERIOR MINISTRY TO SUPERVISE W. BANK COUNCILS

TA171038 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The Ministry of the Interior has appointed an accountant to supervise the work of the local and regional councils of the Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The Ministry of Housing and Construction as well intends to intensify supervision over the companies for developing the area which were established by the local councils. The two ministries are not authorizing the establishment of any more developing companies, because in their opinion, there is no supervision over their activity.

Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that these decisions were reached yesterday in a discussion held at the office of the director of the Ministry of the Interior.

The local councils of Judaea and Samaria established three developing companies which deal with construction, busing, and other tasks which, within the Green Line, are carried out by the local councils.

MINISTRIES SET UP JOINT COMMITTEE FOR W. BANK

TA171328 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The Ministries of Agriculture and Housing will set up a joint committee to coordinate development and construction work in Judaea and Samaria. The decision was made in a meeting between Deputy Prime Minister David Levi and Deputy Agriculture Minister Mikha'el Deqel. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the Agriculture Ministry will continue to coordinate all activities in Judaea and Samaria. However, any new public or private initiative will be submitted to the committee.

7 NAHAL WEST BANK FOOTHOLDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

TA171134 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Jan 83 p 2

[Text] Seven of the fourteen Nahal footholds the defense minister mentioned are already under construction in Judaea and Samaria. This is being reported in this week's issue of BAMAHANE NAHAL.

The names of the presettlements are: Zurit, Ginnat, Gannim, 'Omarim, Zalaf, (Rogan) and Ma'ale Levona.

It has further been reported that work on those footholds is sometimes delayed because the local inhabitants submit appeals to the High Court of Justice, claiming ownership of the land involved.

ARENS SAYS WORLD JEWRY SUPPORT HAS INCREASED

TA180525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Israel's ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arens, said that only a marginal minority of Jews outside Israel protested against the war in Lebanon. Speaking in the Center for Advanced International Relations Studies of Miami University, Arens said that furthermore, the contribution of world Jewry to Israel has increased as a result of the war. The ambassador also repeated that U.S. Administration protests of the invasion of Lebanon did not stem from a difference in the objectives, but from a difference in the interpretation given to events in the region.

ALGERIA

SAUDI, MAURITANIAN, PLO OFFICIALS RECEIVED

LD172326 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, this morning received Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, Saudi minister of state, who handed the president a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The meeting took place in the presence of Lakhdar Ibrahimi, adviser at the presidency, as well as the Saudi ambassador to Algeria.

Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, also received Ahmed Ould Minnih, the Mauritanian foreign minister, who handed him a message from Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. Present at the audience was Larbi Belkheir, secretary general of the Presidency, as well as the Mauritanian ambassador to Algeria.

Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, this afternoon received Dr George Habash, secretary general of the PFLP, and Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DPFLP. The meeting took place in the presence of Lakhdar Ibrahimi, adviser at the Presidency.

LIBYA

OIL SECRETARIAT ISSUES STATEMENT, URGES UNITY

LD172028 Tripoli JANA in English 1846 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 3, Jan 17 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The Oil Secretariat of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah issued a statement on the deteriorating oil prices in the world's market pointing out that the Jamahiriyah is so concerned about oil prices because it led and still leads the battle of oil prices for the interest of the peoples of the oil producing countries from the viewpoint of unwavered and principled stand. As an outcome of this battle, the oil producing countries were able to control and fix oil prices, marketing, and shares given to the oil monopolies which used to explore, produce, market, fix prices and shares of profits for the country which owns the oil fields. The oil secretariat would like to point out the following:

1 -- The Jamahiriyah has reduced oil production and put technical control not over each company but went beyond that to limit the production of each well separately. Such controls are endorsed by OPEC and not implemented by other oil countries.

2 -- The worsening of the oil market is referred to the absence of production control. Production in other oil producing countries is regulated according to the interests of the capitalist countries. Some of these producing countries doubled their production which caused a damage in their oil reserves and created what is now called oil glut and a stagnation in the world's oil market and enabled the capitalist monopolies and countries to build large oil reserves to undermine the oil market.

3 -- The Jamahiriyah has repeatedly warned of that danger at the OPEC meetings in the recent years and even before the current deteriorating state of the oil market.

4 -- The Jamahiriyah has called and calls upon the OPEC countries to restore production with reference to historic production levels and reduce production to absorb the oil glut in the world's oil market.

5 -- The Jamahiriyah adheres to the OPEC basic prices and is ready to reconsider the qualitative differentials which are not static and controlled by the world's economic situation and the oil markets. This would be the case if all the oil producing countries adhered to limit and reduce production to a certain level that absorbs the oil glut with consideration to the "historic levels of productiion" of the oil producing countries.

6 -- Jamahiriyah puts all its resources towards maintaining the unity of OPEC and stop it from collapse with a stress on a commitment to the gains achieved by OPEC to the peoples of its member countries and confrontation of the campaigns of blackmail and exploitation waged by the capitalist monopolies.

MOROCCO

REPORT OF CALL FOR EMERGENCY ARAB SUMMIT DENIED

JN151216 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Rabat, 15 Jan (INA) -- Ahmed Bensouda, adviser to Moroccan King Hassan II, has denied that Morocco had officially called for an emergency Arab summit conference.

In a statement to INA, he described as baseless the reports that Morocco had made an official request to the Arab League for an emergency Arab summit. He said he believed that any Arab position in this regard will only be formed after the Arab seven-member committee's visit to London on 7 February.

Press reports said yesterday that Morocco had made an official request to the Arab League for an Arab summit conference to discuss the results of the Arab seven-member committee's visits to Washignton, Paris, Moscow and Beijing.

DAILY SCORES REAGAN'S COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL

PM171611 Rabat AL-'ALAM in Arabic 8 Jan 83 p 2

[M.Y. article: "Spotlight"]

[Text] When he received Zionist President Navon, U.S. President Reagan reaffirmed his "commitment to guaranteeing Israel's security."

This is the same Ronald Reagan who last September announced a peace plan which he hoped would lead to a settlement in the Middle East. Israel, whose security the U.S. President has committed himself to guaranteeing, has been occupying the Golan Heights, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip since 1967 and Lebanon since last June. It is the same Israel which has categorically rejected the Reagan plan and committed further provocation by building more Zionist settlements in Arab territory. What unknown danger prompted the U.S. President to reaffirm his commitment to Israel's security when it would have been more logical to commit himself to Lebanon's security, for example?

The Arabs had at least expected the United States to bring pressure to bear on Israel to make it stop building settlements. Nothing of this kind has happened. Instead, the Zionist state was given much more financial aid than originally planned.

The Arabs had expected a firm stand on the question of the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon but the U.S. attitude toward its pampered ally has not changed.

The Arabs had expected the United States to take a step toward the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, but the steps taken were in the direction of Israel.

The Arabs have not yet slammed the door in the face of the United States, but the period for testing intentions cannot last forever.

KUNA REPORTS HASSAN, OPPOSITION LEADER MEETING

LD142125 Kuwait KUNA in English 1659 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Rabat, Jan 14 (KUNA) -- The long-awaited meeting between Moroccan King Hassan II and the opposition leader Abderrahim Bouabid took place Thursday in Marrakech, Moroccan sources said Friday. The sources told KUNA that the 90 minute-meeting between King Hassan and Bouabid, who is the secretary general of the Socialist Union for People's Forces, is of special significance because it is linked to political developments in Morocco and the positive developments in Moroccan-Algerian relations in the wake of the mediation carried out by Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, (?sources) say.

No information was available on the talks between Hassan and Bouabid at the meeting which is the first of its kind since summer 1982.

Bouabid was jailed for one year following his opposition to the way the referendum on implement [as received] approved by the second Nairobi conference on self-determination for the Western Sahara inhabitants, but was released after serving only six months.

Bouabid has playeda diplomatic role in the Sahara issue and participated in a number of delegations to the U.N. and foreign countries. He supervised the April 1956 negotiations with Spain when the question of the Saharan was first raised.

The meeting is expected to lead towards lifting restrictions imposed on the Socialist Union which is regarded as the main opposition party. Such steps are likely to lead to the release of detainees and the republication of the Union's newspapers.

Previous contacts had paved the way for the meeting. Former Senegalese President Leopold Senghor has played an intermediary role towrad that objective and counsellor of the Moroccan monarch Mohammed Ridha Akdera has met with Bouabid to discuss preparations for the meeting.

UK PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES 16 JAN

LD162218 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Excerpt] A British Parliamentary delegation led by Lord Newall, Conservative member of the House of Lords, arrived at Mohamed V. Interational Airport at noon today on an official visit to our country at the invitation of speaker of the Council of Deputies Ahmed Dey Ould Sidi Baba. In the airport lounge the head of the delegation made a statement to radio and television in which he expressed his utmost pleasure at being in Morocco. He said that he will confer with Moroccan officials, primarily the prime minister, on the development of relations between Morocco and Britain.

KENYA

NAIROBI REPORTS CONCLUSION AT ZHAO'S VISIT

EA171618 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The visiting Chinese prime minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang, is due to leave for home shortly after 1715 today at the end of a 3-day successful official visit to Kenya. Earlier today, Mr Zhao Ziyang made an extensive tour of coffee and tea plantations in Kiambu, accompanied by Kenya's vice president, Mr Mwai Kibaki. The visiting prime minister also viewed the Rift Valley landscape from the escarpment.

The prime minister, who showed a lot of interest in Kenya's napier grass, requested for samples of the grass for his country and he was assured that as soon as the required tests are carried out, the grass would be sent to China.

Before the tour, the visiting prime minister, accompanied by Mr Kibaki laid a wreath at the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta's mausoleum at the parliament buildings. Mr Ziyang thanked Kenyans for giving him a memorable welcome and hospitality during his stay.

Zhao Pledges Trade Balance

EA171637 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The trade imbalance between Kenya and China will be redressed following the final round of talks between Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and President Daniel arap Moi. China has pledged to increase its volume of trade with Kenya by buying our coffee, tea, and soda ash.

On the liberation struggle in southern Africa, the two leaders endorsed the strategy already employed, whose details were not revealed. President Moi thanked the Chinese Government for pledging to increase trade with Kenya and expressed the hope that the trade cooperation will open the way for more cooperation in other areas of development.

Departs for Home 17 Jan

EA171908 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Premier Zhao Ziyang, head of the State Council of the PRC, who has been on a 3-day official visit to Kenya, left Nairobi shortly after 5:45 pm for home. Premier Zhao was given a warm send-off by his host, H.E. President Daniel arap Moi, accompanied by the vice-president and minister for home affairs, Mr Mwai Kibaki. Before departing the Chinese leader inspected a guard of honor mounted by the Kenya Army and also viewed displays by teams of traditional dancers.

In a brief statement, Premier Zhao said that he wished to congratulate the people of Kenya under the leadership of President Moi for the great successes they have achieved in building their nation. He said both China and Kenya hold identical views on various international issues, and hoped to further strengthen the development between Kenya and the Chinese people to have friendly relations and cooperation on the existing basis. He said that after having successfully completed his visit to the 11 African nations he was fully loaded with the friendship of the African people.

Immediately after his plane took off for home, the Chinese premier sent a message to President Moi, and through him to the government and the people of Kenya, thanking him for the warm hospitality accorded to him and his delegation during the 3-day official visit to the country. The prime minister said he was convinced that the friendship existing between the two countries will grow from strength to strength for the good of the two peoples. Mr Zhao Ziyang wished President Moi continued good health to continue leading the Kenyan nation to higher prosperity.

SOMALIA

PRESIDENT SCORES SOVIETS FOR COERCING ETHIOPIANS

GF171215 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1015 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Doha, 17 Jan (WAKH) -- Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre strongly attacked the Soviet Union and accused it of forcing Ethiopia to occupy parts of the Somali lands 7 months ago.

In an interview with the Qatari newspaper AR-RAYAH, part of which was published here today, the Somali president said that the Soviets use the ruling regime in Ethiopia to achieve their ambitions in the Horn of Africa. He pointed out that the Ethiopian aggression against Somalia is a part of a Soviet plan to subjugate Somalia after they had subjugated Ethiopia. He added that it was the Soviets who brought Mengistu Haile-Mariam into power in Ethiopia and consequently, he is carrying out their policy and can never deviate from their control. (?Regarding the Ogaden, which is being occupied by Ethiopia) and [words indistinct], he said that [words indistinct] to restore its freedom on the basis of its assistance to the oppressed peoples. He pointed out that Somalia's problems with Ethiopia are problems which are related to the borders.

The Somali president pointed out that the Soviet Union wants to impose its domination in the Horn of Africa. He said that this domination is a part of a Soviet objective aimed at subjugating all the Arabs. In his statement, President Siad Barre expressed his belief that the United States still wants to return to Ethiopia and said that this is not possible because the Soviets will not leave Ethiopia.

MOGADISHU: ETHIOPIAN TROOPS SEEK ASYLUM IN SUDAN

EA141146 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] More than 100 Abyssinian regular army soldiers are said to have crossed into Sudan and asked for political asylumn. The soldiers are some of the Abyssinian regulars captured by the Eritrean Liberation Movement and later freed after 129 soldiers had died in captivity. There are also reports claiming that more than 1,000 Abyssinian soldiers recently asked for political asylum in Sudan.

CHAD

MITTERRAND STATEMENT ON INTERFERENCE WELCOMED

AB171954 Paris AFP in English 1842 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Paris, Jan 17 (AFP) -- Chad today welcomed "with satisfaction" a statement by French President Francois Mitterrand who warned the great powers and African states against continuing the bloodshed in the African country.

The Chadian charge d'affaires here, Ahmad Allami said he was "delighted" with yesterday's statement by Mr Mitterrand in Cotonou, the capital of Benin, "against threats by Libya which are more and more clear."

Mr. Mitterrand said during an official visit to Benin that France was determined to see Chad freed from foreign interference and any form of foreign occupation, so that it could settle its problems by democratic means on its own.

Mr. Allami said that Chad was particularly counting on France to help it fight for its existence and that it would call on "any country attached to peace and justice" for help.

GABON

FRANCE'S MITTERRAND ARRIVES IN LIBREVILLE 17 NOV

Bongo Welcoming Speech

AB171334 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0955 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Speech by President Omar Bongo welcoming French President Francois Mitterand to Libreville -- live, broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...a demonstration of a warm welcome which is a tradition in Gabon. It also demonstrates the warm commitment which, through you, we intend to demonstrate to eternal France, a humane country. Believe me, Mr President, this welcome also demonstrates our admiration for the person who is at its head, leading it on new paths to make it better than it was in the past. It also shows our intimate feelings and our highest aspirations, because the Gabonese people know that you are a man of freedom, justice, and peace, because you continued to fight, throughout your prestigious political career, against inequalities, all sorts of injustices and oppression of the have-nots and the weak. We therefore can hope, Mr President, that through your desire, the solidarity between France and Gabon will be fruitful and will produce excellent results. You intend to broaden and strengthen this solidarity, Mr President, in a humane spirit of equality, realism, and efficiency, which are your personal qualities.

You have maintained the French nation in its purest tradition, which has made it the flagbearer of freedom in the world as well the defender of the great principle of human solidarity, equality of people, and universal peace. The assistance in all areas by our former masters, who have become our partners in equality and in mutual respect for our national sovereignty, for our divergences, and for our well-understood interests, helps us greatly in our relentless effort for the constuction of our country, for its prosperity and for the welfare of all its citizens who are united within a peace-loving society, both internally and externally. So, welcome Mr President to this land which had been French and which, to a certain extent, remains so in spirit and culture because it received its first modern education from your great and noble country and inherited your language, which is now our official language.

You are at home in Gabon because more than 100 years of a common existence characterized by happiness and misfortunes experienced together have woven between our two peoples the closest and very solid ties of a confident friendship. You are at home because following our independence, achieved without any clashes or misunderstandings, the relations between the metropolis and the colony were transformed through mutual consent into relations of cooperation between fully sovereign states. I am certain, Mr President, that your visit will enable you to know better this country of restraint and good sense, which has remained faithful in all respects. It has been 30 years since, as a young minister for French overseas countries, you used to travel from Abidjan to Bamako on pilgrimage to the root of the French-African friendship. You described these trips as journeys of brotherhood. These trips have finally brought you to Libreville, where the entire people are welcoming and greeting you. At the same time, for my part, I am happy to resume with you the confident contacts which I hope will usher in new joint actions.

In fact, Mr President, since you assumed the supreme leadership of your country, we have met on two occasions in Paris and Zaire and -- why not say it -- we communicate every day either through telephone or by letters with these words I would like to say on behalf of the Gabonese people: Long live President Francois Mitterrand; long live France; long live French-Gabonese cooperation. [applause]

Mitterrand Speech

AB171425 Libeville Africa No 1 in French 0955 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Address by French President Francois Mitterrand on arrival in Libreville on 17 January -- live]

[Text] Mr President of the Republic, I thank you for the words of welcome and friendship you have just said about the French people, France in general, about myself, and those who are accompanying me on the occasion of the visit I have the honor and the pleasure to begin in Gabon this morning. I am very touched on my arrival at the Leon Mba Airport in Libreville by the quality and warmth of your welcome and your words which, Mr President, perfectly demonstrate the brotherhood and the privileged character of the relations between the French nation and the people and the Gabonese nation and people. Concerning the meetings you have just recalled -- the meeting of the French-African heads of state or during our personal meetings as well as during your official working visit to Paris 18 months ago -- yes, I am very happy to meet you here in Gabon, your country. I see in you a statesman with precious experience on issues concerning Gabon and Africa or concerning the priceless ties that you have preserved and strengthened between France and your country. I also commend you for being a man of dialogue on the regional level, on the higher level of the entire African Continent, and finally on relations between the countries of the North and those of the South. You are convincingly and realistically committed to serve the cause of solidarity, development, and peace. This is why I am convinced, like you, Mr President, that our talks will enable us -- considering the weight and the seriousness of the problems and the tests imposed on us by the world crisis -- to examine, as sovereign, friendly. and equal partners, the means to ensure our future with more confidence and serenity.

Finally, during these 2 days, I will have the opportunity not only to have contact with the people and the authorities of the city, but also to (?open) the first phase of the national network of the trans-Gabonese railroad and then to visit Franceville, capital of Haut Ogouee Province.

These visits will enable me to study and to decide the means to be adapted in order to strengthen the French-Gabonese cooperation that you have just stressed. This cooperation is a fundamental sign of the long-standing friendship between our two peoples. Mr President, I very much appreciate your welcome, as well as that of the people who have turned out to greet the president of the French Republic. I also greet your wife, whom I already had the pleasure to meet and whom I am seeing here again in this beautiful country by the side of the president of the republic. During the forthcoming hours, we will have the opportunity to exchange views on several occasions but right now I can relate to you this call from my heart and mind. Long live the Gabonese Republic; long live Gabon; long live France; long live French-Gabonese friendship. [applause]

Request for Nuclear Powerplant

AB180657 Paris AFP in English 0420 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Libreville, Jan 19 (AFP) -- Gabon formally asked France on Monday for a nuclear station.

President Omar Bongo made request at a gala dinner here last night for President Francois Mitterrand and his delegation, who are on the last lap of a three-country African tour.

Mr Mitterrand replied that preliminary studies were needed to determine precisely what was requested to build the station for Gabon. Evaluation of all the facts was particularly necessary for a country like Gabon that has major energy resources but needs to think ahead of the drying up of its oil reserves, Mr Mitterrand noted.

Gabon's crude petroleum output, which has been declining gradually since 1976, is currently some 7.5 million tons a year. At present rates of extraction, known reserves would be exhausted by the end of the 1980's.

Known uranium reserves amount to some 20 years' output at recently achieved rates, which are themselves well down on a peak figure of 1,978 tons in 1976. France buys 60 percent of Gabon's uranium.

Mr Mitterrand noted that Mr Bongo had asked for a "modest-sized" nuclear power plant. Current technology could not yet manage that, though developments in that direction were moving ahead rapidly, Mr Mitterrand said.

Human rights were the other topic broached by the two statesmen in their dinner speeches, against the background of the sentencing in November of 37 activists of the unofficial Opposition National Recovery Movement (Morena). They got terms ranging from 20 years in jail to 18-month suspended sentences. Gabon is a one-party state.

President Bongo told the guests he was the leader "of a Gabon of pardon and understanding, not to say the Gabon of human rights."

But he also warned French residents that unless they followed his policies, they had no place in the country and he would put them on the first plane back to Paris.

Mr Mitterrand's reply, which observers took to be a reference to the November jailings, was: "I can only voice the wish that it will be possible for you in a short while to let the strong winds of African generosity blow."

BENIN

MITTERRAND CONCLUDES VISIT TO COTONOU 17 JAN

Dinner Toasts Reported

AB172131 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Last night, President Kerekou hosted a dinner in honor of his French counterpart, Francois Mitterrand. At the start of the dinner, several Beninese and French officials were awarded honors. Then there were two toasts.

In his toast, President Kerekou said that the French head of state's visit opened a new chapter in the relations between France and Benin. Our great comrade in arms reaffirmed that Benin chose the path of socialist revolution in full awareness. He then explained the major gains of that democratic people's revolution. Among the gains, there is the reorganization of the old territorial administration aimed at bringing administration closer to the people; economic measures have been taken to revive our economy, which was completely dependent on external factors. Also, efforts are being made daily through a national campaign for increased production with the view to achieving self-sufficiency in the area of food. The head of state observed that we have been making those efforts in spite of all the destabilization attempts, the most audacious of which was the barbaric aggression on 16 January 1977.

Elaborating on the reforms undertaken so far, President Kerekou stressed the launching of the school of reform aimed at guaranteeing Beninese cultural identity and bridging the gap between school life and practical life.

On the international front, the head of state held the view that as long as some rich countries continue to base their economics on armaments and on the principle of everyone for himself, our world will never experience the social peace necessary for the development of our respective countries.

On African and world political issues, President Kerekou said that for Benin, France can contribute to creating favorable conditions for direct negotiations between Morocco and the SDAR. He hoped that France will use its influence to help Namibia to accede to independence.

On the Chadian problem, the head of state said that, for Benin, the establishment of lasting peace in that country requires reconciliation among all the children of that friendly and brotherly country. He also expressed the determination of our country to see that the OAU will remain an African, militant, and strong organization.

On the Middle East, the head of state held the view that it is time the international community should recognize the right of the Palestinian people to live in peace in an independent and sovereign state.

In view of that gloomy picture of the international stiuation, President Kerekou hoped that Benin and France will continue to expand and improve their relations of cooperation in the well-understood interest of our two peoples and states.

In his reply, the French president once again explained his gratitude and that of his delegation for the welcome accorded them in Cotonou. Francois Mitterrand gave his assurance that France and Benin will now go hand in hand to champion the ideals of peace and justice in the world.

The French head of state again pledged his support to the Namibian people in their struggle for their independence and wished that the Chadian people would restore unity among themselves.

Departure for Gabon

AB172015 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Excerpt] French President Mitterrand left Cotonou this morning for Libreville, Gabon. He was satisfied with the outcome of the talks he held with the authorities of our country during his visit, described as one to restore harmony in the relations between France and Benin and to strengthen their bilateral cooperation.

TOGO

MITTERRAND CONCLUDES VISIT TO LOME 15 JAN

Attends Parade

AB151247 Paris AFP in French 1127 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Lome, 15 Jan (AFP) -- A mammoth parade composed of military personnel, militants of the party youth organization, women, workers associations, and party activists marked the end of the 2-day official visit of President Mitterrand to Togo. Before leaving Lome for Cotonou early this afternoon, Mr Mitterrand will have lunch with his Togolese host, General Gnassingbe Eyadema.

Economic problems, particularly an increase in French aid to Togo, which faces a difficult situation, were the key subjects of talks held by the two leaders and the ministers accompanying them. Mr Mitterrand's delegation includes notably Claude Cheysson, minister of foreign affairs, and Christian Nucci, minister of development and cooperation, who is making his first African visit since his appointment in December.

The restructuring of French aid with an emphasis on rural development, an eventual increase in French technical advisers to Togo, and, finally, an increase in France's purchase of phosphates were discussed during this visit. African and regional political issues were also examined during the talks, especially the OAU crisis and Chad. It is recalled that Togo played an important role in the search for a solution to Chad's civil war.

Message to Eyadema

AB161058 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] The president of the French Republic and Mrs Mitterrand left Lome yesterday afternoon at the end of their 48-hour official visit to Togo. The French president's DC-8 took off at 1515 from the Lome Tokoin International Airport for Cotnou in the People's Republic of Benin. Shortly after his departure from the Lome Tokoin Airport, President Mitterrand sent a warm message to President Eyadema. In the message, the French head of state wrote in particular:

At the time when I am leaving Togo, I would like to restate to you all the pleasure and the interest I had in meeting you on the soil of your beautiful country and I thank you for the memorable welcome you and the Togolese people accorded me and my delegation. I am sure that this visit and the very conscious and warm talks we held will enable us to further strengthen the close ties of cooperation and friendship between France and Togo. Mr President, I once again express to you and to the Togolese people the hope that I see you soon and all my sincere wishes for happiness and prosperity.

Signed: Francois Mitterrand, president of the French Republic

ANGOLA

AFP REPORTS UNITA RAID IN BIE PROVINCE

AB141238 Paris AFP in French 1212 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Luanda, 14 Jan (AFP) -- UNITA, the opposition movement to the Luanda regime led by Jonas Savimbi, recently killed two people and burned one in a village in Bie Province in central Angola during a raid, according to ANGOP.

Citing local information, ANGOP said armed groups in the service of Pretoria on 10 January looted Kavanda Village, 50 km north of the provincial capital of Kuito, where they burned down 31 huts and "killed defenesless people." Observers stress that the Angolan media only recently began reporting on UNITA's activities, which until then were glossed over.

ANGOP Report

AB151356 Luanda ANGOP in French 1300 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Kuninga (Bie), 15 Jan (ANGOP) -- Armed bandits in the service of the racist Pretoria regime on 10 January at dawn massacred the civilian populations of Kavanda Velha (Kuninga municipality) in the Bie Province, a communique from the local Department of Ideology announced. The communique states that this criminal act resulted in the death of 2 people, the burning of 31 huts and looting.

The Angolan people united behind its armed branch, the glorious People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, will justifiably respond to this barbarous massacre, which once again manifests imperialist intentions and causes the death of civilians, so that Angola will be free and sovereign, this communique stresses.

LESOTHO

SPOKESMAN DENIES ANC MEMBERS FLOWN TO MOZAMBIQUE

MB141808 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] A Lesotho Government spokesman said today that the continuing accusations and insinuations by South Africa that Lesotho does not want to relate peacefully with South Africa are a grotesque misrepresentation of reality. The spokesman was reacting to South African news media reports which are seeking to (?depict) certain countries of southern Africa as being more amenable than Lesotho to the maintenance of peace between themselves and South Africa.

Recounting Lesotho's contribution toward peaceful coexistence and good neighborliness between herself and South Africa, the spokesman said that Lesotho's prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, had been the first African head of state to have a meeting with a South African prime minister when he met the late Hendrik Verwoerd. Subsequently he met with John Vorster, who succeeded Verwoerd, and that in recent years he conferred with Mr P.W. Botha on matters of mutual concern between the two countries. The spokesman also said that Lesotho's preparedness to work for good neighborliness and peaceful coexistence was borne out by participation in the intergovernmental working committee between Lesotho and South Africa, which also held subcommittees dealing with various matters on routine affecting the two countries. Furthermore, the spokesman said the police forces of the two countries stationed at entry points have worked in relation concerning their day-to-day international routine.

Over and above this, the spokesman said, Lesotho's ministers of government had been encouraged to meet their South African counterparts on bilateral issues and they in fact visited South Africa on several occasions, while South African ministers seldom ever come to Lesotho.

In conclusion, the spokesman said that Lesotho had always invited the Republic of South Africa to feel free to point out any matter that could be a source of tension in the relations between the two countries. He added that South African efforts to blame Lesotho for noncooperation only aimed at justifying last month's South African invasion of Maseru, which was a senseless action, as it had been in complete disregard of the established channels of communication between Lesotho and South Africa.

Meanwhile, a Lesotho Government spokesman also had dismissed a South African press report that there had been (?an airlift) of ANC refugees from Lesotho to Mozambique last week. The report had said that the refugees were airlifted out of Lesotho last week. Emphatically denying the reported airlift of ANC members from Maseru to Maputo, the spokesman said that the South African mass media propaganda was once again trying desperately to deceive the world into believing that the wanton invasion in Maseru in December last year, was justified.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS STRIKE, PROTEST CORRUPTION

MB141800 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Reports from Roma [national university] say that the students are still on an indefinite strike, and have passed nine resolutions which they have presented to the university administration. A call by the university which said that students should resume lectures today was rejected by the student union. According to the reports, the student union also resolved last night that all the university offices should be closed except those of the vice-chancellor, the registrar and the dean of student affairs. The students have also made an assurance that all the university property will not be tampered with during the strike.

Following their resolutions, some of the university offices were closed down this morning, and Senate meeting was interrupted and had to be dismissed. According to the report, the Senate had declared that it could not deal with the students' demands and had precipitated the present impasse.

Meanwhile the acting vice-chancellor, Dr (Maruping), this afternoon announced that he will close the university, but reports say the students are not likely to leave the university campus. The students' grievances include arbitrary appointment and dismissal of staff and a general maladministration of the university. Furthermore, they complain about general corruption within the university administration, resulting in huge financial (?losses) and misappropriation of funds.

MAURITIUS

CUBAN VICE PRESIDENT ARRIVES 13 JANUARY

AB141155 Paris AFP in English 1112 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Port Louis, Jan 14 (AFP) -- Cuban Vice President Juan Almeida Bosque has been given a warm official welcome after arriving here yesterday for a four-day visit to Mauritius, his latest stop in an extensive African tour. In a speech Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth expressed a desire to establish close relations with Cuba, and said important exchanges in the educational, scientific, technical and cultural domains were to be expected. He said he believed relations between the Indian Ocean island and Cuba would develop further in the years to come.

Mr Jugnauth said that like Cuba, Mauritius was worried by mounting tension and misunderstanding in the world, and by "evil forces continuing to scorn international opinion with the aim of dominating the weaker nations." Commenting that like Cuba he was opposed to these forces, he said that "every nation has the right to live in peace, whatever its political system."

Mr Almeida, for his part, said his was "a new visit of old friends" and he was certain it would pave the way for further exchanges between the two islands. Noting that Cuba and Mauritius had the mono-culture of sugar in common, he said that scientific exchanges could be mutually beneficial. The Cuban vice president assured the island's leaders that Cuba would "do everything in international forums to support Mauritius when it comes to recovering all its territory and to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace."

PRIME MINISTER: TRIP TO USSR 'FRUITFUL'

MB141613 Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 6 Jan 83 p 7

[Text] The Soviet Union will present Mauritius with two patrol boats and will buy Mauritian textile products.

This was announced on Monday by the prime minister, Mr A. Jugnauth, on his return from a mission that he qualified as "fruitful." Jugnauth first went to Lusaka, Zambia, where he participated in a conference of Eastern and Southern African countries to establish a preferential trade zone. The prime minister said that Mauritius was among the four countries chosen to address the meeting during the signing ceremony that inaugurated the organization. He added that the inclusion of Mauritius in this zone is in line with its development policy of regional cooperation.

Mr Jugnauth then went on a private visit to India to take part in a ceremony hosted by the in-laws of his daughter, before going to the Soviet Union, where he was officially invited to the festivities marking the 60th anniversary of the Soviet state. He was accompanied by Mr S. Peerthum, a member of parliament; Mr B. Bacha, permanent secretary to the prime minister's office; and Mr Gujadhur, Mauritian ambassador to New Delhi.

Mr Jugnauth held talks with Mr Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The talks were on current international problems and cooperation between the two countries. Mr Jugnauth said that the Soviet Union wants to strengthen its ties with Mauritius. He also visited historical sites in the USSR. The prime minister made an address in Leningrad during the 60th anniversary celebrations. Before returning to the country, he visited London, where he spent the New Year's holiday with his children. Several ministers, as well as Mr T. Pankov, Soviet ambassador, and Mr P. Singh, Indian ambassador, came to meet the prime minister at Plaisance Airport.

MOZAMBIQUE

RNM REPORTS ZAMBIAN TROOPS TO AID MACHEL

MB171550 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 15 Jan 83

[From the "Highlights of the Week" program]

[Excerpts] Chimoio, 14 January -- The headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance [RNM] reports that the Zambian Government has been sending troops into Mozambique.

According to an RNM spokesman, Samora Machel has asked troops from Zambia and Tanzania to support the so-called Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique who are unable to cope with the situation in view of an intensification of the war being waged by RNM guerrillas in all fronts.

In November last year Zimbabwe sent three companies into Mozambique, estimated at 15,000 men. At that time the RNM warned the Zimbabwean Government that it would suffer violent attacks should it continue giving military support to Mozambique.

MACHEL, MILITARY, POLITICAL LEADERS MEET

MB171142 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] The country's political and military situation was analyzed in a meeting held in Nampula from 14 to 16 January. The meeting was held in the framework of the guidelines which determine that 1983 should be the year of action on all fronts. President Samora Machel, marshal of the republic and commander in chief of the Mozambique Armed Forces, presided over the meeting. The meeting was attended by members of the party Political Bureau, Cabinet ministers and first secretaries and governors, and provincial military commanders.

FOUR 'BANDITS' PUBLICLY EXECUTED IN GAZA

MB170827 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Four members of the Pretoria-sponsored Kizumba bandit group, who were trying to destabilize Mozambique, have been executed in Gaza Province following a public trial.

The national service of radio Mozambique this evening said that the four had been captured at Chicualacuala on the Zimbabwean border, where they had been part of a group attacking freight trains and sabotaging the railway line. On Tuesday they were presented at a public meeting at the town of Masia. The meeting was led by Vice Defense Minister (Sebastiau Mabote) and by Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano, who is standing in for the governor of Gaza Province. The four bandits were sentenced to death after people present at the meeting demanded they be put to death. The sentence was carried out by firing squad in public.

NAMIBIA

CROCKER: U.S. READY TO END ROLE IN NAMIBIA

LD142311 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] The American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, says the United States is ready to abandon its role in the independence negotiations for South-West Africa/Namibia if the whole of Africa wants this. He was speaking in Harare at the end of a closed door 5-day conference arranged by the New York-based African-American Institute where many of the some 200 American and African delegates lambasted U.S. policy in Africa, particularly over South-West Africa/Namibia. Conference sources said that taken in context Dr Crocker's statement was not an implied threat to drop the American initiative. They said that Dr Crocker stated that America had been urged by many African comments, privately and publicly, to continue negotiations on South-West Africa/Namibia. Dr Crocker is quoted as adding: But if all of Africa asks us to take our marbles and go home, we will do so. However, the doors are still open.

The conference ended on a bitter note with another attack on U.S. policy by the SWAPO leader Mr Sam Nujoma. He has hit out once more against the concept that Cuban troops should be withdrawn from Angola as part of a settlement in neighboring South-West Africa/Namibia.

Crocker, Nujoma Meet in Harare

LD150348 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, says the United States is ready to abandon its role in the independence negotiations for South-West Africa/Namibia if the whole of Africa wants this.

Immediately after having expressed opposing views Dr Crocker and Mr Nujoma had a 25-minute private meeting in Harare. No announcement was issued after the meeting but correspondents say Dr Crocker insisted that the question of Cuba and South-West Africa/Namibia had to operate in parallel. He is said to have called this a decision that Angola would have to make.

PRETORIUS CALLS ON REPUBLICANS TO RESIGN

MB150858 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 15 Jan 83 p 3

[Excerpt] Windhoek -- The leader of the National Party of South-West Africa, Mr Kosie Pretorius, yesterday called on the seven Republican Party members of the 18-man white legislative assembly to resign immediately.

In a statement released in Windhoek yesterday, Mr Pretorius said that Republican Party members should do this to give voters a chance to elect other representatives.

The Republican Party is the white party in the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, whose chairman, Mr Dirk Mudge, is to announce his resignation from the SWA/Namibia Council of Ministers on Tuesday.

"It is clear that the Republican Party's role as a white party is played out and that its leaders' tottering credibility has been totally destroyed." Mr Pretorius said.

Mr Mudge said earlier this week he would recommend that the seven Republican Party members vacate their seats in the white legislative assembly.

Meanwhile, the SWA Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] has come out in support of a national party call for a white referendum in the territory.

Reacting to Mr Mudge's resignation, the HNP leader, Mr Sarel Becker, said yesterday: "We support the call by the white administration again to have a white referendum providing the question asked is acceptable."

He added: "The resignation of Mr Mudge is not as important as many people supposed, as his time of service was already officially ending."

A number of SWA political parties reported yesterday that appointments had been made with them to meet a delegation of the SA Department of Foreign Affairs on Monday.

SOUTH AFRICA

SECOND ROUND OF TALKS WITH ANGOLA POSSIBLE

MB181038 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 18 Jan 83

[Text] Angola and South Africa are to have a second round of talks over Namibia. Angolan sources in Lisbon say the meeting will be held in Luanda. They say go-between Cape Verde Foreign Minister Silvino da Luz flew to Luanda on Sunday to prepare for the talks. There has been no confirmation of the reports from any of the parties involved.

Last month South African and Angolan Government ministers met secretly in Luanda. It was their first meeting since Angola became independent in 1975. It was understood they discussed the issue of the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a precondition of Namibian independence.

SWAZILAND

BORDER GUARD 'ABDUCTED' BY S. AFRICAN SOLDIERS

MB171159 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 15 Jan 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] A Swazi, Mr Samuel Shongwe, is being held at Baberton Prison, eastern Transvaal after being abducted by five South African soldiers on December 14 last year along the "no man's land" between South Africa and Swaziland border.

Mr Shongwe, employed by the Ministry of Agriculture as a cordon guard to patrol and repair the cordon fence between Swaziland and South Africa from Jeppes Reef through Matsamo border post to Komati River, was abducted by the South African soldiers while on duty at about 7:30 pm, a well-informed source told the OBSERVER.

He said: "Mr Shongwe was apparently on duty patrolling the fence at about 7 pm on Tuesday, December 14, with two colleagues when he was confronted by the South African soldiers." The source said when the South African soldiers brought Mr Shongwe to the border gate they said they caught him because they suspected he wanted to cross the border while in possession of a gun.

"Some eyewitnesses could not believe what the South African police were saying because Mr Shongwe comes from the same area of Matsamo and has worked as a cordon patrol for the past 12 years," he said. The source said the soldiers, five in number, three whites and two blacks then took Mr Shongwe across the border into South Africa where they locked him up at Malelane police station from December 15.

When some of his relatives and colleagues went to check on him on December 19, he had already been removed to Barbeton where he was charged under four counts.

"The irony of the whole event is that Mr Shongwe has been charged with the possession of a shot-gun, cartridges, crossing the border without a passport and crossing the border without permission," he said.

This is the second incident to take place in the area, said the source: "About July last year another Swazi national, Mr Daniel Ndzinisa, who has since left his job, was also abducted by the South African soldiers under the pretext that he was seen trying to cross the border illegally."

He added: "Ndzinisa was also dragged in broad daylight on a Sunday afternoon across the border by South African soldiers, but fortunately those who were partrolling with him had seen everything and said that the South African soldiers were not telling the truth that he was crossing illegally. That is how he was saved."

The cordon patrollers of the Ministry of Agriculture are given an identity document saying who they work for and stating their duty and duty areas with a Swaziland Government stamp.

The deputy principal secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mr Gilbert Dlamini, said the ministry could not comment on the matter since it was still being under consideration.

SEVENTEEN ANC EXILES WALK OUT OF REFUGEE CAMP

MB170754 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Seventeen ANC exiles have walked out of a Swaziland refugee camp. They have walked out at the risk of being shot because they feared an attack was being planned against them. Sources in Swaziland have said the exiles were concerned that people who claim they were journalists and who were taking photographs of the camp may have been part of a plot to attack them. The exiles have been in detention in the camp near the capital, Mbabane, since December when they were rounded up in the wake of the South African Defense Force raid on ANC property in Lesotho.

ZIMBABWE

EX-RHODESIAN ARMY COMMANDER ARRESTED 15 JAN

MB171043 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] A former commander of the pre-independence Rhodesian Army has reportedly been arrested in Zimbabwe. Major General (John Hickman) was apparently arrested last Saturday, the day after a close associate of the former commander was also taken into custody. There has been no official confirmation of the reported arrest. (Hickman's) legal representatives have declined to comment.

AAI CONFERENCE ENDS; U.S. POLICY CRITICIZED

AB141636 Paris AFP in English 1621 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Harare, Jan. 14 (AFP) -- The 13th African-American Institute (AAI) Conference ended in Harare today with Namibian guerilla leader Sam Nujoma blaming the United States for the "bleak" chances for early independence elections in Namibia. U.S. policy toward Namibia and South Africa was the dominant topic in discussions during the five-day conference, which was attended by about 250 delegates from the United States, 21 African nations and several international lending institutions.

During a session on South Africa yesterday, U.S. Congressman Clement Zablocki was heckled and jeered by other delegates when he seemed by his remarks to accept South African policies on bantustans and Pretoria's attitudes towards "uneducated". In contrast Mr Nujoma, the president of SWAPO, was greeted with applause when he rose to speak at today's session.

[Words indistinct] said there was now one South African (?for) every 12 Namibians in the territory, and that torture, rape and slaughter of herds had become accepted practice for the South African Defense Forces operating there.

"Despite six long years of negotiations to bring about the independence of Namibia, South Africa is still busy using stalling tactics because it cannot afford to allow the implementation of the U.N. plan for the independence of Namibia," he said.

U.S. policy of linking the elections in Namibia to the withdrawal of the several thousand Cuban troops based in Angola, to the north, was repeatedly criticised during the week by delegates at the conference, including some congressmen. The Washington administration maintains that the Cubans are a "destablishing" influence on the region. But Mr Nujoma said that Cuban troops had never invaded any African state, which over the past year South African soldiers had invaded Angola, Lesotho and Mozambique.

After the conference Mr Nujoma held separate meetings with Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker, the architect of the "constructive engagement" policy that calls for Cuban withdrawal. A source close to Mr Crocker said later that a Namibian settlement "had never been closer," but SWAPO officials dismissed the statement as a tactical ploy. "With respect to the negotiations, there is deadlock, complete deadlock," Mr Nujoma said.

Mufanafuti Makatini, the ANC representative to the United Nations, said in an interview that South African intransigence in meeting the demands of its black majority would soon force the ANC military wing to take its internal struggle in South Africa to a higher level. Mr Makatini said ANC policy so far had been to strike only at targets that would not cause loss of life. In the past two years bombs have damaged a nuclear reactor, South Africa's coal-to-oil Sasol fuel plant and brought down power transmission lines. The decision to step up military action was taken after South African attacks on ANC offices in Mozambique and Lesotho in which dozens of ANC members were killed. "I cannot tell you what we will do, I can only tell you what we will not do -- we will not sit with folded arms and let our people be killed like flies," he said.

Conference delegates also discussed economic and development issues earlier in the week. Some of the conclusions reached were that -- U.S. private investment in Africa was minimal -- that U.S. aid to Africa did not meet the continent's development needs, and that corruption and instability in African countries was in many cases a major disincentive to needed foreign investment. Criticism was also leveled at American military aid to Africa, which Congressman Howard Wolpe said had increased by 300 percent over the past few years, while economic development aid had either remained the same or decreased. But AAI President Donald Easum, himself a former secretary of state for African affairs, noted that in every case military aid had only been provided after a government requested it.

FIVE PERSONS KILLED BY ZIPRA DISSIDENTS 17 JAN

MB171837 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Dissidents today murdered five people, among them a prominent businessman, Mr (Masulini Philip Moyo), and two employees of the Matabeleland provincial authority. A government spokesman says the bandits who identified themselves as ZIPRA [Zimbabwe Independent People's Revolutionary Army] elements, accused Mr (Moyo) as a sellout because he did not cooperate with them in their activities.

Mr Moyo was murdered in the (Mathobogo) communal land, (Esigodini) District, by four dissidents who were armed with automatic rifles. The bandits stole goods and money before they went to steal from a beer garden. The provincial authority employees were stabbed to death while checking [word indistinct] in the building of the (Linkwe) secondary school in the (Gwanda) area.